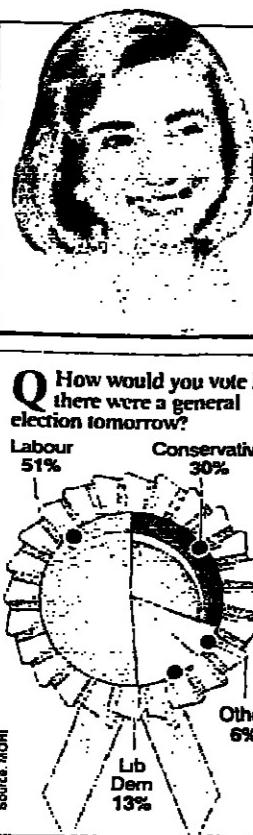


# THE TIMES

30P

No. 65,671

THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996



**HILLARY CLINTON**

First lady of soft-furnishing  
Anthony Howard  
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## BEST FOR BOOKS

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Hen-pecking her way into the headlines  
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## SPOTLIGHTED

- Director 65K
- Manager 50K
- Executive 50K
- Accountant 45K

TOP JOBS  
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Q How would you vote if there were a general election tomorrow?

Labour 51% Conservative 30%

Other 6% Lib Dem 13%

Source: IOPC

BY PETER RIDDELL

THE Tories are winning back the support of middle-class voters amid signs of greater public optimism about the economy, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*.

The party has recovered to level-pegging with Labour among the middle classes for the first time in two and a half years. This is a crucial shift since the middle classes now make nearly half the electorate and Labour had made big inroads in this traditionally Tory group after Tony Blair's election as Labour

leader two years ago. At the end of 1994, Labour had a 48 to 31 point lead among the middle classes. But now both parties are around 40 per cent.

The poll, undertaken last weekend, confirms that Tory support generally is on a slowly rising trend, though Labour retains a commanding overall lead with only eight months to go before the probable election date of May 1. Tory support has risen one point over the past month to 30 per cent, with Labour slipping two points to 51 per cent, its lowest since September last year.

The Liberal Democrats have advanced one point to 13 per cent over the month. Tory support is now three points higher than a year ago, and five to six points higher than two years ago. The key influence seems to have been the return of the "feelgood" factor since there are still only flickers of a revival in satisfaction with the Government or in John Major's personal rating.

The MORI economic optimism index, measuring those believing that the general economic condition of the country will improve rather than get worse over the next 12

months, stands at plus two points. This is the first positive rating for two years as recently as last winter the index was around minus 15 points. This improvement reflects rising living standards and consumer spending, coupled with falling unemployment and a pick-up in the housing market.

The Tories' aggressive anti-Labour campaign "demonising" Mr Blair may have helped undermine Mr Blair's previously high personal rating. The index measuring those satisfied/less dissatisfied with the way Mr Blair is doing his job as

Labour leader dropped from plus 19 to plus 11 points at the end of July after the rows over the Shadow Cabinet elections and the subsequent reshuffle.

Nonetheless, Labour's overall poll position remains much more favourable than at the same stage before previous elections. Eight months before the last three elections, Labour was either well behind the Tories or, at best, only a couple of points ahead. The present gap is 21 points.

Labour strategists recognise that Tory attacks, and reports about

internal divisions, may have increased negative views of the party. Their counter-attack will start today when Mr Blair launches a series of regional tours with a visit to north Wales and the north-west.

The decline in Mr Blair's rating has meant that Paddy Ashdown is now the most popular party leader. □ MORI interviewed 1,708 adults at 145 ward sampling points between August 20 and 25. Voting intention figures exclude those who say they would not vote (10 per cent), who are undecided (7) or who refused to say (3).

## Feelgood factor swings middle class to Tories

# Prince not likely to marry soon, says Major

BY ALAN HAMILTON AND EMMA WILKINS

THE marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales ended with the granting of a decree absolute yesterday as the Prime Minister said there was no immediate prospect of the Prince marrying again.

John Major said: "It is very sad for both the Princess and Prince Charles and their children. People think that was the right thing to happen. I see no prospect of a remarriage at this stage."

Asked if a remarriage by the Prince could cause constitutional problems, Mr Major, who was visiting Faslane naval base on the Clyde for the decommissioning of Britain's last Polaris submarine, said that the question was hypothetical. "There is no prospect of Prince Charles marrying again at the moment. May be at some stage in the future — but that may be some years ahead."

Diana, Princess of Wales, stripped of the title Her Royal Highness, began her new life as a single woman yesterday wearing a broad smile and her wedding and engagement rings as she attended a luncheon engagement in London.

Attention will now focus even more intensely on the Prince's long-standing friendship with Mrs Camilla Parker Bowles, herself a divorcee. Some months ago in a rare public statement on the matter the Prince made it known that he had no immediate intention of marrying her or anyone else. However, the Prince will now be forced to confront the issue of whether to maintain absolute discretion in his relationship or gradually to introduce Mrs Parker Bowles to the public as his regular companion.

At the same time as the 15-year union was being terminated by a civil servant's stamp on a sheet of paper, Buckingham Palace announced a decree by the Queen making clear that women who acquire the Her Royal Highness style by marriage will in future always lose it on divorce.

The Palace said that its decision to announce new rules on royal titles after

divorce was not intended as a snub to the Princess, but to avoid debates of the kind that arose this year over the divorces of the Princess and of the Duchess of York, who also lost the title Her Royal Highness.

The text of the Queen's Letters Patent, to be published in the *London Gazette* tomorrow, make clear that, in future, divorced wives of male descendants of the sovereign will not be entitled to use the style Royal Highness. Rules for the title's use were last clarified by George V in 1917.

The divorce proceedings came to a conclusion in an office at the Family Division of the High Court in Somerset House yesterday, when the Prince's lawyers applied for the decree nisi granted on July 15 to be made absolute. A clerk issued the necessary certificate, and lawyers took copies away to give to the parties.

The Prince of Wales remained at Balmoral, where he is holidaying with the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and his sons Prince William and Prince Harry. Five hundred miles away, his former wife kept a long-standing public engagement. She was in light-hearted mood as she visited the offices of the English National Ballet in South Kensington.

Over a lunch of sandwiches and mineral water, the Princess spoke to staff and members of the company before watching a short performance of the ballet, X. N. Tricities. Dancers were unsure how to address her, but Derek Deane, artistic director, avoided the issue by greeting her with a simple "good morning".

Some of the 62 members of the company cursed while others called her "Ma'am". She was full of her bright sense of humour although she was slightly quieter than usual, Mr Deane said.

Marriage question, page 4  
Ring of confidence, page 13  
Magnus Linklater, page 14  
Letters, page 15



Diana, Princess of Wales, wearing her wedding and engagement rings in London yesterday

## Botham's boy lives up to his name

BY RICHARD WHITEHEAD

ENGLISH cricket may have found a knight in shining armour in the hour of its greatest need — and his name is Botham.

Liam Botham, 19-year-old son of England's greatest all-rounder, announced his arrival in the county game yesterday with a first appearance that proved he has inherited his father's talent for the theatrical.

In Botham's first appearance for Hampshire he took five wickets for 67 runs off 15 overs against Middlesex at Portsmouth and unveiled an ability sadly lacking in the England attack during their Test series defeat by Pakistan.

Bowling at a pace somewhat slower than his father in his

heyday but with a strikingly similar run-up, he revealed the knack of ensnaring batsmen with bad balls which was patented by Botham Senior.

His first victim was Mike Gatting, a former England colleague of his father's, via a leg stump half-volley which the former England captain deposited in the hands of a fielder. "He seems to have inherited his father's flair," Gatting wryly observed. "Ian won't be able to give me much stick — he never got me out once in 15 years."

John Carr, soon to become cricket secretary of the English Cricket Board, was Botham's next conquest, caught by the wicketkeeper off a wide long hop and he completed a trium-



Liam Botham: familiar cricket pitch theatrics

virate of dismissals with what might euphemistically be termed ordinary deliveries when Richard Johnson hit a full toss straight back to him. Ricky Fay and Philip

Tufnell provided the two other more conventional wickets.

Liam, a beefy 6ft 1in and 13½ stone, was not even supposed to be playing yesterday. John Stephenson, the Hampshire captain, declared himself recovered from injury and able to play and Botham was despatched to appear for the second XI along the coast at Southampton. Stephenson then suffered a recurrence of his injury and Botham was summoned by mobile phone to return to Portsmouth.

Botham Senior did not see his son's performance which was a big improvement on his own county championship debut. That was on May 8, 1974 when he took 0 for 15 against Lancashire at Taunton.

Buying The Times overseas

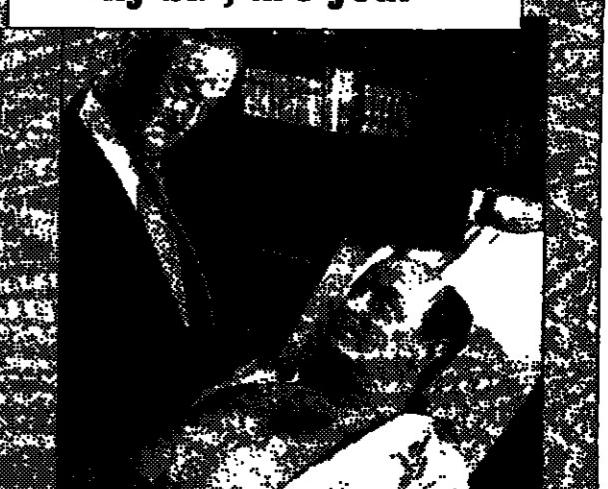
## Loyalists order out hardliners

The loyalist paramilitary leadership last night cracked down on hardliners when it ordered two men to leave Northern Ireland within 72 hours or face "summary justice".

Billy Wright, from Portadown, Co Armagh, who served a sentence on an Ulster Volunteer Force prison wing, and Alex Kerr, who is on remand, were given the warning by the Combined Loyalist Military Command ... Page 2

Photograph, page 45

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Two men given 72 hours to go as paramilitary leaders move to clamp down on rogue elements

# Loyalist hardliners told to leave Ulster or die

By NICHOLAS WATT  
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

LEADERS of loyalist terrorists last night moved to clamp down on Protestant hardliners by ordering two men to leave Northern Ireland within 72 hours or face "summary justice".

Billy Wright, who served a prison sentence on an Ulster Volunteer Force wing, and Alex Kerr, who is currently on remand in prison, were given the blunt warning by the Combined Loyalist Military Command. Mr Wright,

who played a leading role during the disturbances at Drumcree last month, was given 72 hours from midnight to leave the Province. Mr Kerr, who is facing terrorist charges, was ordered to leave within 72 hours of his release from prison.

In a statement, the Military Command told the two men that they would be killed if they ignored the order. "Failure by either man to comply with this directive will result in summary justice." The same threat was made to anyone supporting the two men. The

statement, from the umbrella organisation for the three main loyalist terrorist groups, was its most dramatic announcement since its ceasefire in October 1994. Mr Wright, 36, has a devoted following in his home town of Portadown, Co Armagh. David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader and the local MP, had talks with him at the height of the loyalist disturbances in Drumcree and asked him to use his influence to restrain loyalist paramilitaries.

Later Mr Wright said that he was bewildered by the murder of

Michael McGoldrick, a Roman Catholic taxi driver, who was shot dead in Lurgan, Co Armagh, on the second day of the stand-off. "Loyalists have shown they do not have a bloodlust," he said. He added that at Drumcree loyalists had succeeded in resisting sinister pressure from the IRA.

Ian Paisley Jr, the justice spokesman of the Democratic Unionists, last night condemned the loyalist terrorists' statement. "Leaving the personalities aside, any death threat on any individual by any organisation is contemptible. It is

repugnant and I condemn it with every ounce of strength I have."

Mr Paisley said that the loyalist statement would only play into the hands of the IRA. He also questioned whether the Progressive Unionists and the Ulster Democratic Party, which have links to the paramilitaries, could continue to attend the multiparty talks in the light of the statement.

The statement by the loyalist leadership came 24 hours after David Ervine, a leader of the Progressive Unionists, said that the loyalist ceasefire was close to

breaking point. He accused the Irish Government and the Social Democratic and Labour Party of standing shoulder to shoulder with the IRA, and added that he had never known loyalists to feel such virulence towards Dublin.

□ Protestants and Roman Catholics reached agreement over a loyalist parade on Saturday, raising hopes for the success of the Independent Review of Parades and Marches which began its work yesterday.

Dr Peter North, the chairman of the new body, said that he was

greatly encouraged by the agreement, which will allow members of the Royal Black Preceptory to march through a section of the predominantly Catholic village of Bellaghy, Co Londonderry.

The Independent Review was set up after the disturbances last month in the wake of the loyalist stand-off at Drumcree. Dr North, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, said in Belfast yesterday: "I am delighted with the local agreement. It could not have been a more opportune step to have been taken for the start of our work."

## Loans help Tories pay off £11.4m overdraft

By ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DEBATE over the sources of Tory funding revived yesterday when the party announced it had moved into the black for the first time in a decade by paying off an £11.4 million overdraft in 15 months.

But the turnaround was achieved only by borrowing millions of pounds from wealthy supporters and local Tory associations.

Conservative Central Office owes £8.5 million in interest-free loans, up from £5.9 million last year. The extra loan income was crucial in clearing the overdraft with the Royal Bank of Scotland. The overdraft had fallen from £11.4 million to £1.9 million in the last financial year.

Figures published by Central Office yesterday showed that income from donations soared from £1.2 million to £18.8 million. About 75 per cent of the cash was donated by private benefactors and companies.

Rebel Tory activists, who have challenged the party high command to publish the names of all donors, said they would mount a fresh assault at the Tory Party conference fringe.

Eric Chalker, a leading member of the Charter Movement which is pressing for change, said: "The improved financial position creates even more worries. While I welcome the fact that the party has now more financial freedom to fight the general election it has been achieved at the expense of raising it from secretive sources."

Labour demanded a state-

ment on the figures from the Prime Minister. John Major attempted to distance himself from party fundraising after the 1992 election by delegating authority to the treasurer's department.

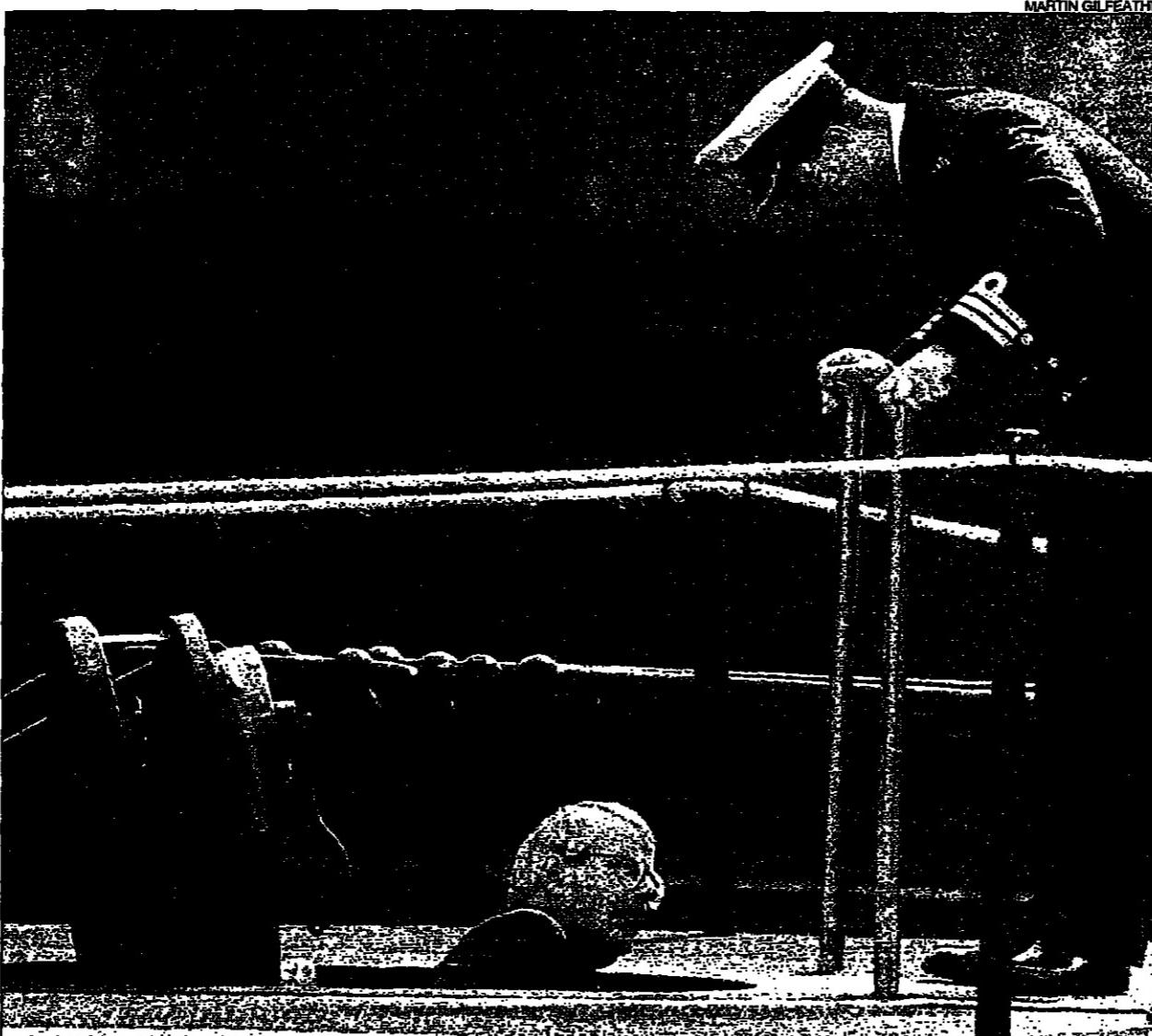
Last year Mr Major visited the Yorkshire home of Graham Kirkham, the founder of the DFS chain, to appeal for financial support. A £4 million loan followed which was later converted into a £5 million donation. Mr Kirkham was knighted in the New Year's Honours for charitable work.

Brian Wilson, Labour's campaign manager, said: "John Major cannot walk away from this. The funds are raised in his name as leader of the party. The Tories' refusal to reveal funding sources remains one of the great democratic deficits in public life."

Labour is to publish its own annual accounts next week and will name all donors who have given more than £5,000. The party has pledged to change the law on funding, to create more transparency, if they win the election.

The balance sheet shows that the Tories achieved an operating surplus last year of more than £7 million. But an analysis of the figures show that if the party sold every asset, including Conservative Central Office in Smith Square, which is valued at £6.3 million, it would still be £615,000 in debt.

Tory strategists yesterday emphatically denied that millions of pounds came from abroad and said the money came from reputable individuals or private companies.



Mr Major on HMS Vanguard at the naval base at Faslane yesterday. He was later taken to sea on the boat

## Last Polaris sub bows out after 30 years 'undetected by friend or foe'

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE last of the Royal Navy's Polaris submarines, which was launched with a bottle of homemade elderberry wine in 1967, was decommissioned yesterday. John Major and Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary, were present for the ceremony at the Faslane naval base on the Clyde that brought to an end almost 30 years of Polaris patrols. As the Royal Ensign was lowered from HMS Repulse, a piper played *Auld Lang Syne*.

All four Polaris boats are now decom-

misioned, and the two bigger and more powerful Trident submarines will take over as Britain's independent strategic nuclear deterrent until the full four-boat force is in service by the end of the century. Mr Major was treated to a ride in the first of them, HMS Vanguard.

HMS Repulse returned to Faslane in May after completing 60 patrols, each lasting about three months. Commander David Phillips, her last commanding officer, said: "I feel considerable pride in her achievements. In March this year she sailed for her 60th deterrent patrol right on time, and on arrival at Faslane in May

concluded the Royal Navy's first chapter of its guardianship of the nation's strategic defence."

Mr Major paid tribute to the men who had mounted the patrols "undetected by friend or foe, every minute of every day of every year from 1969 to May this year". He added: "I have no doubt that we are right to maintain a minimum credible strategic nuclear deterrent for the UK. We will continue to do so for as long as our security needs require us to do so. Even though circumstances have changed, the world still remains an uncertain and dangerous place."

## Three held after £20m drugs raid

Two men and a woman are being questioned at a central London police station after heroin with an estimated street value of £20 million was seized by police yesterday when they raided a car park. The seizure is thought to be the largest made by police alone.

Officers from the South East Regional Crime Squad found 50 kg of the drug inside the car and another 50 kg under the rear seat in a hollowed out compartment when the vehicle was dismantled by experts. Police said that a large quantity of money was also found in the raid. For operational reasons, police are not disclosing full details of the raid.

## Gardeners win case

Anthony and Ann Jolley, the gardeners sacked from the estate of Sebastian de Ferranti, the millionaire industrialist, were unfairly dismissed, an industrial tribunal has ruled. However, the tribunal said there had been a 75 per cent contributory fault by Mr and Mrs Jolley, which will be taken into account at a later compensation hearing.

## Seamen killed by gas

Four of the five Japanese seamen killed off the west coast of Ireland last week died as they tried to rescue their chief engineer who was overcome by fumes as he repaired a refrigeration unit. An inquest in Cork yesterday concluded that all five, including the captain of the *Taisei Maru*, died from gas poisoning. Their bodies will be flown home today.

## Tests clear rape suspect

Genetic tests on an alleged rapist arrested in Brittany last week have ruled him out as a suspect in the continuing investigation into the rape and murder of the British schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson. French police said the suspect had allegedly confessed to two other rapes and one attempted rape in the past three months.

## Butt charge dropped

A criminal damage charge against the Manchester United player Nicky Butt has been dropped. The 21-year-old midfielder had been expected to face a two-day hearing before magistrates in Trafford, Greater Manchester, accused of causing £300 damage to a car door. But the Crown Prosecution Service has withdrawn the charge.

## Theatre in cash crisis

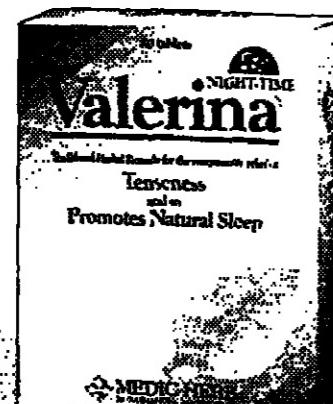
A theatre set up in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, by Alan Ayckbourn, Britain's most successful living playwright, is facing a cash crisis only four months after it opened. A shortfall in funding from its three main sponsors means the Stephen Joseph complex is likely to be £50,000 in the red at the end of its first year.

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CLINICALLY TESTED - EFFECTIVE

## Ministers call for limit on Brussels' 'intrusive' powers

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS will next week demand curbs on the "intrusive" power of Brussels as they step up their campaign to wrest control of national legislation from the European Commission.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, has increased pressure on fellow European Union members to support British demands for severe restrictions on Brussels' power to intervene in national lawmaking.

The demand for greater powers at national level was unveiled yesterday when the Government published a protocol that would reduce the opportunity for new laws to be introduced across the European Union. The protocol would require an EU institution to prove its case to introduce legislation across member states, rather than at national level. Foreign Office sources said that the protocol would "help to improve the quality of European legislation, and curb some of its more intrusive aspects".

The UK will press for the protocol to be added to the EU Treaty as amended at Maastricht, strengthening the rules on subsidiarity, the principle whereby action is taken where possible at member-state level, rather than across the EU.

Ministers signalled their plan to increase pressure on the Commission to hand back powers to nation states in the Government's White Paper on the future of Europe, which was published in March. The draft protocol is to be discussed at the inter-govern-

## Howard challenged on jail releases

By RICHARD FORD

A CONVICTED drugs pusher will mount a test case today against Michael Howard to determine whether thousands of prisoners get early release and leave the Government with compensation payments of several hundred million pounds.

John Naughton, aged 32, serving jail terms for burglary and drug offences will challenge the home secretary's decision to stop the early release of inmates from jails.

Lawyers acting for Naughton, a petty criminal from Sheffield, who is in Lindholme prison near Doncaster, will seek a judicial review of Mr Howard's decision last Friday to halt further releases.

Ministers are anxious to secure a court victory on the issue of the calculation of jail terms because of possible compensation payments. One source suggested the prison service had estimated a figure of £500m—£750m in compensation going back to 1967.

Naughton's solicitor, John Dickinson, said it would be argued that the time spent on remand before conviction should count against each consecutive sentence. It will be heard in the Divisional Court by Lord Justice Simon Brown sitting with Mr Justice Popplewell.

A total of 537 inmates were released early before Mr Howard's intervention. Richard Tilt, the director general of the service, is to conduct an inquiry into events leading to the debacle.

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Woman who map London

1996

The Venice Film Festival: £30m epic on Michael Collins draws fire from both sides of conflict

## Concern as film revives hero of Irish terrorism

FROM DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT, IN VENICE

A POTENTIALLY explosive film about the Irish terrorist Michael Collins is awaiting judgment from politicians as well as critics when it premieres this weekend. The director, Neil Jordan, has already offered a preview to political representatives in Britain and Ireland, amid concern that the film may worsen tensions over the collapse of the Ulster ceasefire.

Rightwingers have accused Jordan of making an "anti-British travesty" while republicans have attacked him for glorifying a man who was killed as a traitor. It stars Liam Neeson, seen as a sympathetic figure after his roles in *Schindler's List* and *Rob Roy*.

The £30 million film, *Michael Collins*, is tipped to be showered with prizes at the festival and the Oscars. Neeson, who was raised as a Catholic in Ballymena, Northern Ireland, is said to have been dreaming of the role for 20 years. He even named his first-born son after Collins.

The early 20th-century Irish freedom-fighter is said to have invented urban terrorism. During the last years of British rule, he ruthlessly ordered the killing of British agents, including 19 in a



Liam Neeson as Collins, one of his own heroes

single morning. He narrowly escaped execution for his part in the 1916 Easter Rising and used the Irish Republican Brotherhood, a forerunner of the IRA, to pioneer a guerrilla movement.

In 1922 the war for Irish independence ended in truce and Collins took part in negotiations with the British, led by Lloyd George. In

signing the Anglo-Irish treaty which partitioned Ireland and fell short of an all-Ireland republic, Collins recognised that he had signed his own death warrant. A civil war erupted in the south and

Collins, known as the "Big Fella", was killed in an ambush in his native Co Cork in 1922 at the age of 31.

Collins is remembered as one of the most flamboyant patriots that Ireland has ever known. Long after his murder, he was an inspiration to colonial causes worldwide.

He was also famous for his love of women. Julia Roberts, an off-screen former girlfriend of Neeson — who is now married to Natasha Richardson — plays his on-screen lover, Kitty Kiernan. The love scenes have been described as "electrifying". Collins's murder came just two months before they were due to marry.

One critic described Neeson's performance as "so powerful that the ambush scenes are some of the most heart-breaking ever filmed". The film, which co-stars Alan Rickman, is to be released in America in October. A British date is yet to be confirmed.

Its producer, Stephen Woolley, countered criticism by describing the film as a plea for peace.

Jordan is no stranger to controversy. He directed *The Crying Game*, an Oscar-winner about a disillusioned IRA gunman who falls in love with a transvestite.



The director, Neil Jordan. He has been offering previews to politicians

## Jordan carves 'Big Fella' a niche in the pantheon of romantic heroes

MICHAEL COLLINS is one of the great "ifs" of history. How different would Anglo-Irish history have been if Collins had not been gunned down by his own people in 1922, at the age of 31?

Jordan's script is a careful abstract of Collins's life and death, which simplifies a convoluted piece of history without overly distorting it.

A devotee of the Irish independence movement from his youth, Collins quickly became one of its leaders. He created an intelligence machine that effectively

penetrated the secrets of Dublin Castle, and developed a form of guerrilla warfare that is still a model for resistance movements around the world.

As played by Liam Neeson, his charm and charisma must have been immense: they not only endeared him to the Irish nation; but even impressed his opponents Lloyd George and Churchill when he came to London as plenipotentiary to the Anglo-Irish treaty negotiations in 1921.

In signing the treaty, Collins recognised that he signed his own

Rather than endangering the chances of peace, the film offers an objective view which is more likely to increase general understanding of the troubles, writes David Robinson

death warrant. The concessions he agreed, as the best deal he could get, brought him into direct conflict with the doctrinaire Eamon de Valera — his former ally and comrade-in-arms — and eventually threw Ireland into civil

war. Dealing with an inevitably inflammatory subject, Jordan offers what seems a creditably objective view of this complicated piece of history, in which it is easy enough to see the roots of later troubles.

It is certainly more likely to increase understanding rather than foment misunderstandings in the climate of the modern peace process.

The British part in this history was not creditable (and hadn't been for 700 years) but the film's tone is not anti-British. What it depicts of the 1916 executions, the atrocities of the Black-and-Tans, the excesses of the intelligence services, are all well enough documented.

For Jordan, the major conflict is between the pragmatic, humanist

Collins and the chilly fanatic De Valera (an amazing interpretative impersonation of the real man, as we remember him from old newsreels, by Alan Rickman).

His boldest piece of historical speculation is to show De Valera directly linked to Collins's assassination.

Jordan says: "I have never lost more sleep over the making of a film than I have over *Michael Collins*. But I'll never make a more important one."

The project goes back some 14 years, when David Puttnam com-

missioned a script from Jordan. It is hard to predict how the film will impress the Venice audience and jury following the premiere on Saturday. The sweep and spectacle, the performances (with Julia Roberts as Collins's girl friend) and the intelligence with which history is dramatised, will certainly be admired.

Perhaps, too, Neil Jordan's film will assure Michael Collins a place alongside Che Guevara and Salvatore Giuliano in the universal pantheon of romantic revolutionary heroes.

## Obsessed mother killed two sons

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A BOY aged 14 screamed "I don't want to die, Mummy", as she stabbed him and his 11-year-old brother to death, an inquest was told yesterday.

A neighbour who heard Rhodri Williams's repeated pleading at Sam on March 15 thought he was having a nightmare, she told the hearing at Swindon, Wiltshire. Karen Goldsmith heard a thud and running footsteps but went back to sleep thinking the boy had been comforted by one of his parents.

The next day she learnt that Rhodri and his brother Steffan had been found dead in bedrooms at their home in Wootton Bassett. Their mother, Isabelle, 41, had used the carving knife she had used on the boys to kill herself.

David Masters, the Wiltshire coroner, ruled that Mrs Williams committed suicide and that her sons were unlawfully killed. He said she had been obsessed with an "inherited evil" and carried out the killings while acutely depressed.

He noted a "telling phrase" in evidence not given in full in court — from the Rev Paul Edwards, a Jesuit priest, who had counselled Mrs Williams

for her depression. The coroner said: "It seemed to him in many discussions that he had with Isabelle that she was oppressed and obsessed with an inherited evil. It was the result of that obsession that brought her not only to her death but to those of her two boys as well."

Dr Roger Ainsworth, a Home Office pathologist, said both boys had "defence" knife wounds on their fingers and multiple stab wounds to their chests. They had apparently also been struck with a mallet.

Neville Shaw, a counsellor from Swindon, said Mrs Williams had spoken to him of suicide and killing her children at a session two days before she died. Detective Inspector Graham Hatwell said she left letters that showed she intended to take her own life and those of Rhodri and Steffan.

Summing up, the coroner said it appeared Mrs Williams had a fixed idea of herself as a "bad character" who could not change. She believed she felt that that part of her character had passed to her sons. The evidence was unequivocal that the boys were killed by their own mother.

Mr Wilson said: "This is a lady who lived alone, has few

## Woman collapses after phone threat

BY PAUL WILKINSON

AN ELDERLY woman was close to death last night after collapsing with fright when she received a threatening phone call.

Yvonne de Havilland dialled 999 before suffering a heart attack. Police found her lying on the floor by the phone in her home in Wheatley Hill, Co Durham.

Detective Inspector Tim Wilson, who is leading the search for the caller, said: "I am treating this inquiry as seriously as I would the most severe physical assault because the telephone was used as a weapon." The pensioner was only able to say that the caller had told her: "You are going to be killed" before slipping into unconsciousness. Last night she was critically ill on a life support machine.

Mrs de Havilland had picked up the phone at her small terraced home at 7.30pm on Tuesday. Two officers went to her house and called an ambulance, but while they comforted her she passed out and her heart stopped. Paramedics carried out emergency heart massage and revived her.

Mr Wilson said: "This is a lady who lived alone, has few relatives and had no known enemies. There is no conceivable reason why she should have received such a call. We don't know whether the caller was a man or a woman because she was in such a terrible state when she called our switchboard."

Police later said that Mrs de Havilland, who is divorced, had been receiving nuisance calls for some time. The call that led to her collapse was the second she had taken that day.

She had visited the local police station to report the first when the second call was made.

Dot Leigh, 45, her friend of 28 years, said: "Whoever made the call said they were going to do her over. She became very upset and it appears she suffered an epileptic fit.

"She had been getting crank calls at her old address and she decided to go ex-directory. She was very upset and couldn't understand why someone would want to make the calls. Nothing was ever said and there was lots of heavy breathing and it really frightened her." Mrs de Havilland is a former bus conductor, but has not worked for many years because of her epilepsy.

## Woman who walked 3,000 miles to map London's streets dies aged 89

BY LIN JENKINS

PHYLLIS PEARSALL, who put modern London on the map by starting the A to Z street atlas, has died aged 89. Mrs Pearsall, an artist and author, who was still running the company she started 60 years ago, enjoyed a bohemian life.

The initial guide provided the first correct maps of the city for 20 years, but only because Mrs Pearsall walked 3,000 miles. She would rise at 5am and walk for 18 hours until she had listed all 23,000 roads.

The first edition almost omitted Trafalgar Square after a slight accident with the shoe box containing details of streets beginning "Tr", but a sharp-eyed compositor asked if there was a reason why it was missing.

Selling the guide proved difficult for a petite, if animated, woman in the days

when nearly all reps were male. Initial reaction to her efforts was to ask if she was bedridden. "I said I was too busy doing the maps," she explained.

But W H Smith took 250 copies and she formed the Geographers' A-Z Map Company. Her enthusiasm for her work led people to believe that the business was her passion. However, painting was her great love. "The maps allow me to paint for joy, not money," she said.

She was forced to leave Roedean at the age of 14 when her father, a Hungarian emigre mapmaker, went bankrupt and fled to America and her Irish-Italian mother thought the presence of a child detrimental to her life with her lover, the painter Alfred E Orr.

She crossed the Channel to teach English conversation in France and scraped a living painting portraits. She married an older artist and settled in

Spain for eight years before leaving him without a word. Mrs Pearsall was back in London when her uncle turned up and said the family was going back into the business. She lived in Shoreham-by-Sea in a modest flat, driving herself to the office well into her eighties, having passed her test, aged 59, after 259 lessons.

The business was turned into a trust some years ago to protect her employees, whom she described as friends. A trustee company was set up holding 100 per cent of the shares for the staff. She was prompted to safeguard the staff after the owner of a London shop she used to buy from put the shop up for sale, giving the employees a fortnight's notice.

Asked a few years ago whether she ever got lost in London, she replied: "Always, dear."

Obituary, page 17

## De Niro 'not the mean street kid of his image'

By DALYA ALBERGE

ROBERT DE NIRO'S tough Mafioso screen image and his code of silence about his real-life youth are being challenged. An unauthorised biography claims to have discovered that he was a happy child with loving parents, not the mean kid from the slum backstreets.

Nor was he even particularly Italian. His father was a second-generation Italian and his mother of Irish-American-Dutch stock.

Andy Doogan, his biographer, has been saying that it suits the studio to portray him as a quiet loner with a tough background. De Niro, star of *Raging Bull* and *Mean Streets*, perpetuates that image by refusing to discuss his childhood.

By talking to De Niro's childhood friends and neighbours, but refusing to name his sources, Mr Doogan, believes he has unmasked the real De Niro in *Untouchable: Robert De Niro Unauthorised*, published by Virgin on September 19.

Far from hanging around with violent gangs, De Niro was a decent kid from an artistic family. On one occasion he was ejected from a department store for travelling the wrong way up an escalator with his friends. "That," Mr Doogan discovered, "was just about as much trouble as he got into."

His father was a gifted painter, a contemporary of Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko, who was "so dedicated to the pursuit of excellence", he destroyed works and painted over canvases. Although his talent was recognised in New York, he disliked the art world and the thought of selling any of his work. De Niro's mother, also a talented painter in her own right, built up a relatively successful typesetting business. Although they divorced when De Niro was two, they both continued to care about him.

De Niro was so close to his father that at his death, Mr Doogan said, he kept his studio as it was; he also liked to spend time there alone. "We have a facade of a tough guy. But here is a sad man who misses his father."

His latest film *Sleepers* has been chosen to open the Venice festival. It co-stars Dustin Hoffman, who yesterday defended the violence in it only months after he had launched a scathing attack on the gratuitous bloodletting of many Hollywood films.

Hoffman said that there was a difference between the mindless brutality of the violent film genre and the violence in *Sleepers* which is based on a true story of sadism in a reform school: "I don't see how you can ever get in trouble by telling the truth," he said.

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# History offers scant hope of happy ending for Prince



By ALAN HAMILTON  
AND EMMA WILKINS

THE Prince of Wales became a free man yesterday morning. But while free in law to marry again, his options appear everywhere bound in chains.

The Prince has said in that he has no intention of marrying Camilla Parker Bowles, or anyone else, in the foreseeable future. Yet yesterday the Countess of Longford, biographer, observer and friend of the Royal Family, said she believed that the Prince and Mrs Parker Bowles would marry within the year and that the country would come to accept the arrangement.

When asked, the country is not so sure. Opinion polls in *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror* found that more than 80 per cent of those

questioned were against the Prince marrying Mrs Parker Bowles.

The only modern precedent he can look to for guidance or hope is the 1936 abdication. Edward VIII suggested to the Cabinet that he enter a morganatic marriage with Wallis Simpson, in which his wife would forgo all position, title and inheritance, as would any children of the union. But Stanley Baldwin, the Prime Minister, pointed out that morganatic marriage did not exist in English law. It still does not: a morganatic marriage would require legislation in Britain and the 15 other countries of which the Queen is head of state. It is not regarded by constitutional experts as a viable option.

However, the real reason for Baldwin's refusal in 1936 was the belief that the British and Commonwealth public would not tolerate a divorced woman as their Queen. Despite a greatly changed attitude to divorce, the position of the present Prince of Wales appears the same. No Prime Minister would give the necessary approval without being certain that the country at large supported the match.

Charles will look in vain among his distant cousins on European thrones for a suitable precedent, although the Danes had quite a fad for turning mistresses into queens during the 18th and 19th centuries. Frederik IV's wife had been dead two weeks in 1721 when he married his mistress, Countess Anna Sophie von Reventlow, and made her Queen Anna. David Williamson, Editor of *Debrett's Peerage*, said the Danes did not approve. "It caused a great fuss because Frederik had

previously had children by her. He just about got away with it in the 18th century, but I don't imagine you would get away with it now."

Frederik VII, already twice married and divorced when he came to the throne in 1848, entered a morganatic marriage two years later with his long-standing mistress, Louise Rasmussen. This time the Danes objected to having the woman as Queen on the ground that she, like Mrs Parker Bowles, was a divorcee.

One other famous European royal marriage was morganatic — the word is from the medieval Latin *morganaticum*, morning-gift, a token gift given after consummation representing the husband's only liability. Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria contracted such a marriage with Sophie, a mere Bohemian count-

ess, before both fell to an assassin's bullets in Sarajevo in 1914.

Time may soften public attitudes. Lord Blake, the constitutional historian, said there was no reason why the Prince and Mrs Parker Bowles should not continue to see each other in private, but that it was too soon after the divorce to consider marriage. "There should be an interval and I would feel it should be at least a year or more for people to get accustomed to the idea," he said.

In the end it is the will of the people, expressed through Prime Minister, Cabinet and MPs, that will decide the Prince's marital future. He will at all costs wish to avoid a repetition of 1936.

**Ring of confidence, page 13**  
**Magnus Linklater, page 14**  
**Letters, page 15**



Camilla: polls against her

## Passengers tell of chaos and fear as hijackers struck

By MICHAEL HORSNELL AND ADRIAN LEE

THE hijackers of the Sudan Air flight SU1610 launched their takeover by smashing Pepsi-Cola bottles and using them as weapons to threaten passengers, the freed hostages said yesterday.

Ahmed Abu Bashir, 42, a Sudanese businessman, said: "It was just like a football riot. People were hitting ... and fighting with the terrorists but the struggle was over in a few minutes."

Mr Bashir, who was travelling to Jordan with his wife and two children, added: "For half an hour we were absolutely terrified until the plane refuelled in Cyprus."

"They had knives and we thought they wanted to kill people on board. A security man hit one of the captors in the face. One of the others had a knife and he stabbed him. There was shouting and screaming. There were women and children there. They were crying and very frightened."

The hijack began 90 minutes into the flight after the plane entered Egyptian air space while approaching the Red Sea on route from Khartoum to Amman in Jordan. The seven hijackers, who were in seats throughout the aircraft, moved up together along the two aisles to the middle of the cabin.

Ahmed Ali, a Sudanese passenger, said the hijack began at about 7.30 local time. "They broke bottles of Pepsi-Cola to use as weapons and we struggled with them. My brother stopped the leader of the terrorists. All the people on the aeroplane just kept their eyes on this struggle. There

sphere became calmer save for the aggression of the ringleader.

Mr A-Saeid, 43, said: "This was a criminal operation carried out by nothing more than criminals. They should be severely punished. You do not have to hijack an airliner to escape from Iraq." He paid tribute to the captain Abdul Hamid Hidri, 51, and crew who reimposed discipline on board and kept the passengers informed.

Over 160 passengers were taken to the Hilton Hotel at Stansted Airport early yesterday after being held for initial debriefing by police at an overspill lounge. They are not expected to be allowed to leave Britain until today, after they have given statements to police.

Language difficulties and the long ordeal suffered by the passengers were said to be making the process a long and slow one, despite the use of sixteen interpreters.

Anti-terrorist officers interviewed the crew, six Sudanese and one Jordanian, yesterday at a hotel in Harlow. Police continued to examine the aircraft, which remained where it had been parked, in a remote part of the airport.

The hijackers and their six female partners were being held at Harlow and Colchester police stations, where questioning began in earnest yesterday morning. Charges were not expected imminently, an Essex Police spokesman said. Most of the hijackers spoke at least some English and were "clearly terrified" at the prospect of being returned to Iraq.

Elaegeid A-Saeid, a senior executive with Sudan Airways who was among the 179 passengers, said: "For the first ten minutes people were shouting and crying. Everything was left to God. Everybody on the plane was scared."

After the Airbus 310 had refuelled at Larnaca for its flight to Stansted the atmo-

were three of the kidnappers at the back of the aeroplane and they came forward. They pulled out two bombs — that is what we thought they were."

The chaos intensified as two stewardesses were taken hostage. A security guard was cut on the hand and arm. Passengers seized one of their Iraqi captors but had to free him when another held up what was appeared to be a bomb.

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**SATURDAY  
IN THE TIMES**



**GENE GENIE**  
Ginny Dougray meets Richard Dawkins, revolutionary biologist, in the Magazine

**TRAVEL**  
Paradise islands, surviving Paris with children, autumn breaks, in Weekend

**PLUS**  
Vision, the seven-day guide to TV and radio

'This is all sour grapes. There are many leading architects who are not registered'

## Winner of design award fined for being unqualified

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE winner of the BBC Design Award for architecture was fined £2,000 yesterday because she was not registered as an architect.

Gabriele Bramante was prosecuted by the Architects Registration Council at the instigation of a Citizens Advice Bureau for which she had raised £200,000 to enable her winning design to be built. The action was brought under the 1988 Architects Registration Act because letters to the Kingston CAB in Chessington, southwest London, from her firm, Bramante Architects of Teddington, carried the word "architect".

The case is the latest clash of wills between Mrs Bramante and the CAB, which now occupies her Japanese-influenced building. Mrs Bramante was so determined that her design should not be compromised in any way that on the night before it was opened by the Princess Royal, she and two friends removed two of its



Frank Lloyd Wright, left, and Le Corbusier. Mrs Bramante said they were never formally registered

conifers planted in front of it and substituted the silver birches her design had originally stipulated.

The CAB is now preventing the building from being considered for the Stirling Prize, Britain's top architectural award, on the ground that it has had too many judges and architectural students viewing the building and distracting staff from their work. The building has won three other

architectural prizes. Keith Barker, representing the registration council, told Richmond magistrates yesterday that there was no record of Mrs Bramante being a fully qualified architect. She was fined £1,000 on each of two counts of misrepresentation and was ordered to pay £700 costs.

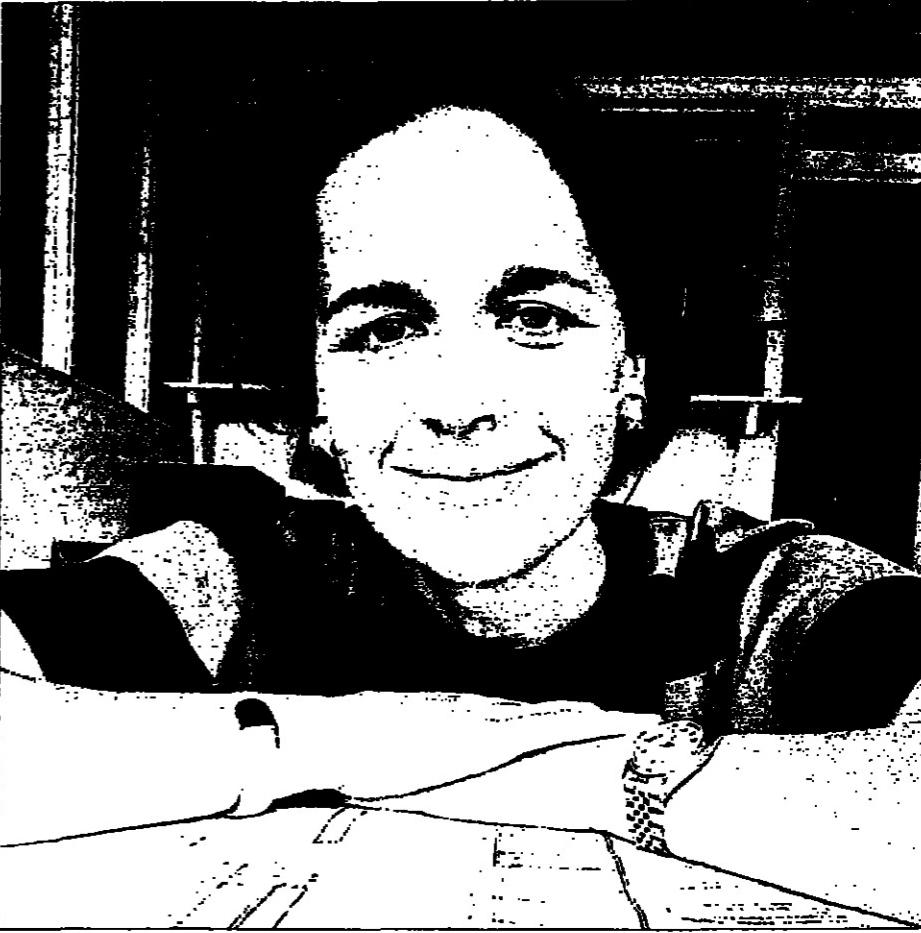
Mrs Bramante, who shares her surname with an earlier architect who designed St Paul's in Rome, but says the

connection is only through marriage, said yesterday that she had had no chance to defend herself because she was unaware of the hearing.

"This is all a vindictive case of sour grapes. There are many leading architects who are not registered with any council. Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier and Tadao Ando, the most famous Japanese architect, were never formally registered."

Of her own case, she said: "I took a degree at Kingston University, then went to Japan to study and won a scholarship to Harvard for the masters in architecture course in 1986. I had written to the registration council to ask them to equate my foreign qualifications and academic record to qualification in this country."

Mrs Bramante's other buildings include toilets for St George's Hospital in Tooting, south London, refurbishments for Look Ahead Housing Association and work on Forte hotels in Germany.



Bramante said she had asked to be registered on the basis of her studies abroad

## Critic of tobacco cash for medical study sent home

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A SENIOR official of the Medical Research Council has been suspended for criticising its acceptance of money from the tobacco industry.

Mary Rice, the council's head of public communications, was sent home after being quoted as saying that she did not think the £147,000 grant from BAT Industries should have been accepted. "I didn't think it could be justified," she told *The Sunday Times*. "I thought it would be seriously damaging to the council's reputation as an impartial source of scientific knowledge. I put this in writing but was overruled."

BAT gave the money for a study at the council's neurochemical pathology unit in Newcastle upon Tyne to investigate whether smoking tobacco could delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease. The council defended the grant by saying that it could lead to new approaches to treating age-related brain disorders.

Jane Lee, director of corporate affairs at the council, said there had been "a difference of view" between Ms Rice and the council. "We asked her to take a period off while we reflected further," she said.

The council's position is that it is impossible to exclude

sources of revenue because of the business they are in. "You can't have a list of companies you can't deal with," Ms Lee said. The council laid down clear conditions for the acceptance of grants. "We would never agree to a grant unless we had complete discretion to publish the results of the research, for example," she said.

In a statement, the council said that the BAT funding was subject to strict conditions. The agreement makes it clear that the sum provided, £49,000 a year for three years, is a donation and that the council has absolute control over the research and publication of results.

It also stipulates that BAT may not make any reference to the findings of the research without the written consent of the council, and "it is most unlikely that the MRC would consent to any such request".

Ms Rice was unavailable for comment yesterday. Her position is likely to find support in the council, which was responsible for the original research in the 1980s into the health effects of smoking.

The council's scientists have been among those who have called for a ban on tobacco advertising.

## Spirited broker's premium vision

HOUSEHOLDERS whose worst nightmares extend beyond fire and theft were invited yesterday to take out insurance against attack by evil spirits.

The policy may be just the thing to bring peace of mind after an episode of the *X-Files*. It may also be perfect to bring a little extra publicity for the broker Simon Burgess, who recently began offering cover against alien abduction.

Mr Burgess admitted that customers of his City firm GRIP would need to look beyond just the spirit of the policy. In exchange for a £25 premium, they will receive £100,000 only if actually attacked by an apparition, or £1 million if a woman is impregnated by a poltergeist. The small-print warns that run of the mill crockery-smashing and hellish odours are not covered.

He refused to be drawn on whether he believed in ghosts, but said: "Obviously we would have independent

assessors before a £100,000 payout is made. We might rely on video or sound recordings.

"While we were issuing cover against alien abduction we found people wanted insurance against poltergeists. We would expect the number of policies to run into the thousands."

One of the first customers to approach him, Joe Tagliarini, 23, a courier from Enfield, north London, said he had seen the ghost of a dead child when he was young and hoped an insurance certificate would act as "a good luck charm".

He admitted that his girlfriend, Carol, had not thought much of his plan. "When I told her I was going to spend £25 on the insurance she was pretty sceptical, but I think she sees the method in my madness. I don't think that validating the claims will be a problem. If the assessors see the kind of things that I have seen, they would pay up straight away."

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## AN OPEN INVITATION TO MICHAEL MEACHER MP AND THE LABOUR PARTY FROM NORTH WEST WATER.

In a recent report to the media, Mr Michael Meacher MP pours more than scorn over the water industry.

He claims that bathing off certain popular beaches is equivalent to "swimming in raw sewage", thanks to the water companies dumping it straight into the sea.

North West Water, according to his report, are the worst offenders.

However, he neglects to point out that his report is based largely on some very old facts and figures.

The effect of this inaccurate report is to damage the development of tourism - a vital part of the North West economy - and with it the creation of new jobs.

To bring the Shadow Environmental Protection Secretary up to date, and avert any further damage to North West tourism, here are some 1996 facts and figures for him to digest before his next public outpouring.

**FACT:** Launched in 1994, North West Water's £500 million Sea Change initiative is not only a major feat of British engineering, it's also one of Europe's largest ever environmental clean up operations.

**FACT:** Sea Change brings to an end the centuries old daily practice of dumping raw sewage directly into the sea.

**FACT:** 30 major projects have been undertaken along the North West coastline (from the Scottish border down to Merseyside), and this massive investment programme is now virtually complete.

**FACT:** The work has included 12 new or upgraded wastewater treatment plants, over 20 kilometres of new wastewater super-tunnels, 35 new pumping stations, and 9 new long sea outfalls.

**FACT:** Wastewater is now being treated using the latest biological methods to meet stringent legal and regulatory standards before it is safely released into deep water as far as three miles out to sea.

**FACT:** Sea Change is just part of a £2 billion environmental programme North West Water is carrying out to improve the quality of the region's rivers and bathing waters.

If misinformation is to be the basis of Mr Meacher's future reports to voters there is little we, or anyone else, can do to stop him.

However, we believe the public deserve something better - the truth.

Truth based on today's facts, today's figures, and what the heck, actual first-hand knowledge.

**That's why we're extending an invitation to you, Mr Meacher and your colleagues.**

Please, come and see what has been achieved. Visit our treatment plants. Talk to local communities. Talk to our people. See for yourself how we're helping to clean up the environment and aid the economic revival of this region.

We have nothing to hide from anybody.



North  
West  
Water  
Facing up to the future

Former satirist behind top school assembly tunes

## Folk singer strikes chord with young worshippers

By JOHN O'LEARY  
EDUCATION EDITOR

A FOLK singer aged 81 scored his biggest chart hit yesterday when his songs filled three of the top six places in the first listing of the most popular songs in school assemblies.

A survey of 520 schools showed that Sydney Carter's *One More Step* was the copyright work most commonly requested for use in collective worship. One of his other hits in the top 20, produced by Christian Copyright Licensing, was *Lord of the Dance*, whose image of Christ dancing once upset traditionalists.

Long-established children's hymns such as *All Things Bright and Beautiful* are no longer covered by copyright, so do not appear in the list. But Andrea Shearn, who conducted the research, said that modern songs were increasingly popular at primary schools, often at the expense of older hymns.

More than 7,000 schools

### SCHOOL ASSEMBLY TOP 10

1 One more step	Sydney Carter
2 Light up the fire	Sue McClellan, Keith Rycroft, John Paulabio
3 Who put the colours in the rainbow?	Paul Booth
4 Think of a world without any flowers	Doreen Newport
5 Lord of the dance	Sydney Carter
6 When I needed a neighbour	Sydney Carter
7 Thank you, Lord, for this fine day	Diane Davis Andrew, Christian O'Connell
8 Water of life	Christian Strover
9 Peace perfect peace	Kevin Mayhew
10 Shine Jesus shine	Graham Kendrick

© Christian Copyright Licensing Ltd 1996

pay an average of £90 a year to reproduce the words of 120,000 hymns and songs for collective worship. Most of the hit works come from the BBC's *Common Praise* book, which has sold more than 3 million copies since 1978.

Geoff Marshall Taylor, who edits the book and has one of his own songs in the top 20, said: "Over the past 20 years, primary schools have developed their own repertoire of

singing, which overlaps with the churches'. Many schools like to have a mixture of modern works and older hymns."

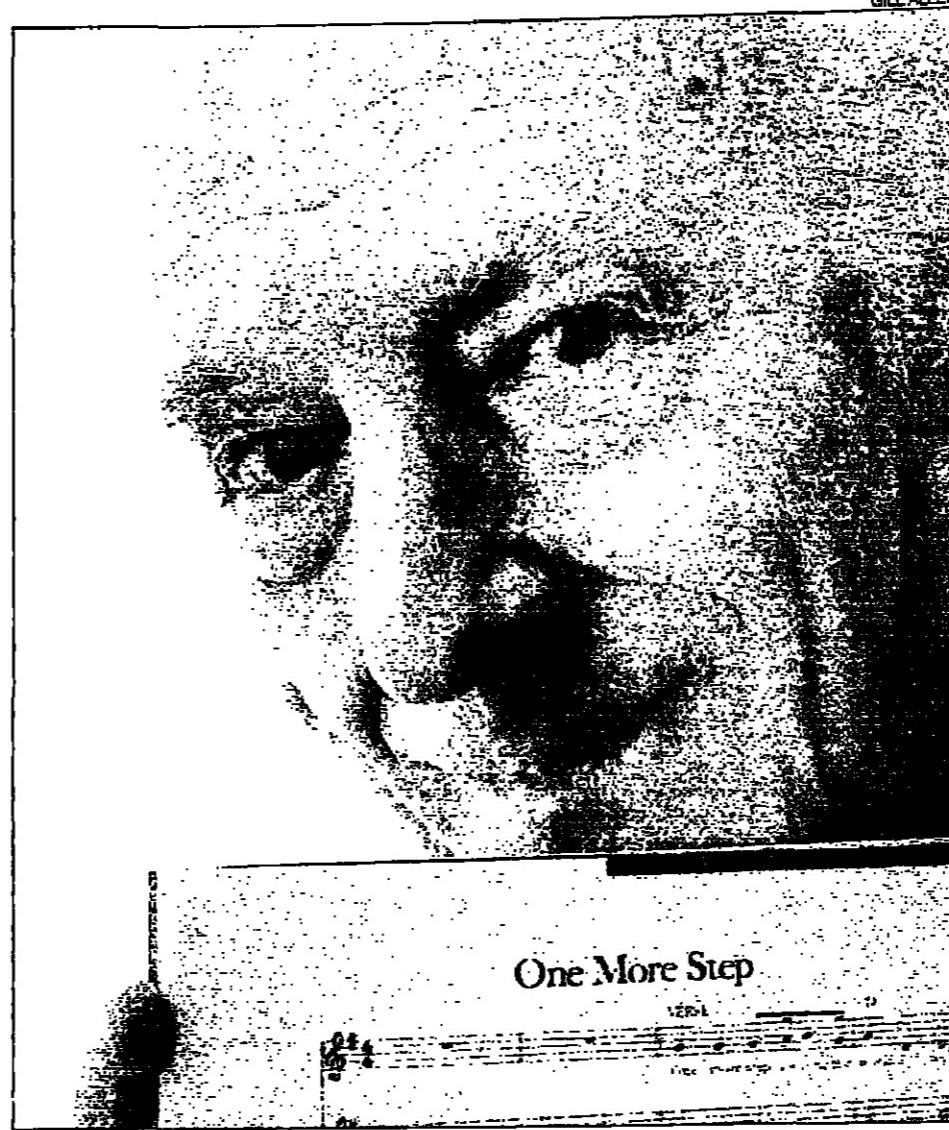
Mr Carter said he thought his songs were popular with teachers because they were "not so doctrinal" as some religious works. "They are songs which can be sung in a Christian context, but they all had to mean something to me because I was often on the

edge of not believing." Now mainly a prose writer, Mr Carter wrote his most popular songs in the 1960s and 1970s. "The songs certainly have not made my fortune, but I am still grateful for the royalties when they come in."

He was a friend of Malcolm Muggeridge, a lyricist for Donald Swann and a writer for the satirical television show *That Was The Week That Was*.

He said he was pleased at the popularity of his songs for collective worship. "There are obvious problems with so many different denominations in schools today, but I had collective worship at school and I do not think it is a bad thing."

A sharp increase in the number of copyright licences issued in the past year suggests that primary schools at least are taking note of the Government's insistence that they observe the law on daily collective worship. Most of the top 20 are songs mainly for younger children.



Front runner: Sydney Carter with *One More Step*, the song sung most in schools

## Toy store prosecuted over child's slide death

By PAUL WILKINSON

A HIGH street toy chain is to be prosecuted for an alleged breach of safety requirements after the death of a three-year-old girl on a children's slide.

The decision by trading standards officers to take the Early Learning Centre to court is the fulfilment of a campaign by the mother of the girl, who choked to death last April. Kirsty Docking, 24, found her daughter Amy hanging from a supporting strut of the slide in the garden of her home in Byker, Newcastle upon Tyne. An inquest has yet to be held.

More than 200,000 of the slides had been sold by the time of the accident and the model was withdrawn and modified. It went back on sale on May 18.

John Menzies, the parent company of the Early Learning Centre, can choose to have the case heard by magistrates or before a jury at a Crown Court. If found guilty it could be fined up to £5,000. The toy store, based in Swindon, denies responsibility.

## BSE 'will end by 2001 with or without cull'

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BSE was in rapid decline and was expected to peter out by 2001, but slaughtering millions of cows would not make it go away much more quickly, a study has concluded.

Without culling, another 6,950 cases of "mad cow" disease were to be expected, to add to the 161,412 cases since the disease appeared ten years ago. But no policy short of large-scale slaughter could have a dramatic impact on the numbers.

The study, carried out by a team led by Roy Anderson of Oxford University, takes into account the recent discovery of a low level of maternal transmission of the disease from cow to calf.

Using all that is known about how the disease originated, how it is transmitted and the susceptibility of cows of different ages, the team produced a mathematical model that fits the observed trends in the disease.

This showed that about 446,000 infected animals entered the human food chain before cow brains and spinal cords were banned in 1989. Between then and the end of 1995, another 283,000 infected cows had been eaten, the team says in *Nature*.

The total number of cows infected by the end of 1995 was estimated to have been 903,000. This is much higher than the number of cases diagnosed, because most of

the animals were slaughtered before the disease became apparent.

The team has produced estimates of the number of cases that would be prevented by various slaughter policies.

Slaughtering all cattle, a total of 9,360,000, would prevent all 6,950 cases that were expected to emerge before the epidemic petered out in 2001, but at enormous cost. A more selective cull, targeting herds that had a case of BSE between the beginning of 1991 and the end of 1995, would involve killing 2,370,000 cows and would prevent 6,300 cases. All the more modest options, involving culling up to hundreds of thousands of cows, would reduce the number of cases much less.

The most efficient, measured in terms of the number of cattle killed per case prevented, would be a combination of aiming at infected herds and the calves of infected mothers. Such a policy could reduce the number of cases by 1,490, at a cost of 44,000 cattle slaughtered — or 30 cattle culled per case prevented.

David Skegg, of the University of Otago, says in the journal that the arcane mathematics should not blind anyone to the limitations of the data. The model predicts 221 cases in the year 2000, but he points out that that was merely the most likely number in a range from 128 to 3,660 cases.



Moving up: the white admiral, left, and painted lady

## Butterflies driven north by warming

By NICK NUTTALL

COLONIES of a common butterfly called Edith's checkerspot were advancing towards the Arctic Circle in search of cooler climates because of global warming.

American researchers said that the finding was the first confirmation of a predicted change in the range and distribution of sensitive species because of climate change.

The study of the effect of global warming on the Edith's checkerspot, which lives from Mexico to Canada, is the first of a single species over its geographical range. Dorian Moss of the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology in Monks Wood, Cambridgeshire, said yesterday that the results added weight to findings in Britain.

A 20-year survey of British butterflies found that many common species were advancing north. White admirals had moved as far north as Lincolnshire and the gatekeeper butterfly had been seen in Cumbria and Scot-

land. Predictions of global warming indicated that butterflies may also leave low-lying areas for the cooler higher altitudes.

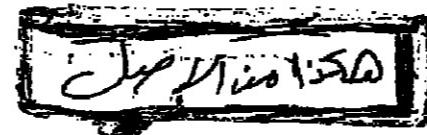
Assessing British butterflies across their range is difficult because historical information from North Africa and Europe, where some spend the winter, is often scanty. British researchers suspect that milder winters in North African breeding areas may be the reason for the current influx of painted lady butterflies.

The American research, published in *Nature*, was carried out by Camille Parmesan of the University of Santa Barbara. She found that populations of Edith's checkerspot in Mexico were now four times more likely to be extinct than those in Canada. "Sites where previously recorded populations still existed were on average two degrees further north [140 miles] than sites where the populations were extinct."

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Meningitis

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## Meningitis kills schoolboy hours after he gets ten As in exams

By DAVID CHARTER  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A SCHOOL was yesterday planning to start term with a memorial service for a star pupil who died of meningitis just days after gaining ten A-grade GCSEs.

Rhys Callaghan, 16, was celebrating his results from St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic School in Newcastle upon Tyne when he became ill with flu-like symptoms. He died in Newcastle General Hospital 48 hours after collecting

his grades from school. His father, John, said that the family felt devastated.

"The day after Rhys got his exam results, he came home from his part-time job at McDonald's with a pain behind his arms. He thought it was from lifting heavy boxes off the shelves, rubbed some cream on it and went to bed."

He added: "During the night he was sick several times and by morning had a headache and sore throat."

"My wife Toni spotted a couple of

purple spots on his neck and cheeks. She knew the symptoms because she had read an article about meningitis and called a doctor straight away."

"When Rhys was taken into hospital, doctors said he had a 90 per cent chance of survival. We knew he was poorly but thought we had caught it just in time, but four hours later he died."

Mr Callaghan said Rhys had been on a high after his results, which included starred A grades in French, history, mathematics and

religious studies. He added: "He had just done famously well in his exams and had so much going for him. We were so proud of him but he was the most unassuming kid you could imagine. He was dedicated to his work but he never bragged or boasted — he didn't have any bad bits."

The family have all been treated against the group C strain of meningococcal meningitis as a precaution. A spokesman at McDonald's said no staff had needed treatment. Edward Lovell, head

teacher of St Cuthbert's, a Roman Catholic boys' school with 1,070 pupils, said that a number of Rhys's former friends and classmates had already taken part in prayers and a mass was arranged for Wednesday.

Mr Lovell said: "Rhys was a modest and unassuming lad with a great character and the whole staff and pupils are absolutely devastated by what has happened."

"He was in here just last Thursday and died on Saturday. He certainly would have been coming

to our sixth form to do A levels and was a sure prospect for higher education."

Tom Collins, 16, a fellow pupil, said: "I saw Rhys on Thursday at school when he went in to get his exam results and he was absolutely fine."

"The next thing I knew I got a phone call at the weekend to say he had died."

Dr Semira Manaseki, registrar in public health, based at Newcastle General Hospital, said that there would be no risk to

anyone at the McDonald's where Rhys worked.

She said: "The disease does not get passed to people by eating food. It is only those who are in high-level contact with a victim who could be at risk. These would be people such as the victim's immediate family, who are with him for many hours at a time."

She added: "It is a deadly disease because it can strike so quickly and can affect victims who are so young. This is a particularly tragic case."

## Angry laird sparks chicken or Eigg row over £2m isle

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A QUESTION of who came first to the island of Eigg threatened yesterday to upset a £2 million public appeal to wrest it from private ownership.

A former laird said that island settlers were "chancers" who had driven away native Hebrideans and deserved no public money. But occupants who helped to keep themselves by raising chickens and goats pointed out that some islanders had been there for generations, while the one-time laird, the millionaire businessman Keith Schellenberg, came from Yorkshire.

The head of the Highland Council — which is a partner in the public appeal with the slogan "Let's crack it" — pointed out that as the island's population had been wiped out three times in clan massacres, everyone was an incomer anyway.

Mr Schellenberg had a troubled reign as laird and left a year after finding his vintage Rolls Royce mysteriously destroyed by fire. His eventual departure was celebrated with jeers from the residents he had once described as "communists". He sold Eigg 16 months ago for £1.6 million to its current owner, Martin Eckhart Maruma, a German artist, who has put it back on the property market.

Mr Schellenberg, 67, a former Olympic bobsleigh champion who now lives on

Kintyre, said: "I brought those people there and none of them are true Hebrideans. They are squashing the true Hebridean out like the grey squirrel is getting rid of the native red."

"I could not think of a less worthy cause. Asking for money to buy the island will be like an extension of social security. They have already received public money. Most have received 90 per cent grants on their homes."

Islanders said Mr

"We have invested a good chunk of our lives here. My children are from Eigg. Under his own reckoning, what right did he have to buy Eigg? He is from Yorkshire."

Fiona Cherry, 27, third-generation islander who runs the post office, objected to anyone being called a chancer. Her grandfather was a shepherd on Eigg and her father was a fisherman. She said: "We are committed to buying the island so we don't have to put up with absentee landlords any more."

Nick Reiter, head of policy at Highland Council, said: "Is he also suggesting that Highland Council and the Scottish Wildlife Trust are chancers?"

The Eigg appeal, he said, was a registered charity with a good business plan. Schellenberg is totally irrelevant. He is part of the unhappy past. We are not looking at the past, we are looking to the future."

Mr Schellenberg said the population had risen from 38 to 80 during his time that he had restored 20 houses and the island had moved forward under private ownership. But Mr Reiter said a survey a few years ago revealed that many islanders were living in sub-standard conditions. A few crofters had had grants for improvements, but many were unable to qualify because few estate houses had secure leases.

Mr Schellenberg said the population had risen from 38 to 80 during his time that he had restored 20 houses and the island had moved forward under private ownership. But Mr Reiter said a survey a few years ago revealed that many islanders were living in sub-standard conditions. A few crofters had had grants for improvements, but many were unable to qualify because few estate houses had secure leases.

"This is our home," she said.

## Why thoroughly modern Miss Jones is far too busy to take a letter

By TIM JONES

REPORTS of the demise of the office secretary have, it seems, been much exaggerated. Far from fading into oblivion with her shorthand notebook and pencil, the modern secretary has embraced the revolution in workplace technology to become more vital than ever.

A survey published today shows

that while many managers have struggled to keep up with the challenges of high-tech offices secretaries have mastered the change.

The report, by Reed Employment, shows that secretaries now leave managers to write their own letters on word processors, which allow poor typists to correct as they go, while they concentrate on more

important matters. One in six of 468 British companies surveyed admitted that secretaries knew more about the company than their managers. According to Reed, the job description of a top secretary is now more impressive than that of the person for whom she works. It might read: "Accounts compilation, budgetary control, organising events and conferences, rewriting

and presenting reports and statistics and managing buildings and equipment maintenance." In addition, secretaries deal with the car fleet, arrange insurance, handle health and safety issues, payroll, customer complaints, purchasing, training and recruitment and cleaning and catering contracts.

While almost 60 per cent of employers say their secretaries are

making more decisions than ever, hardly any of them are rewarded with promotion. This is in spite of 40 per cent of managers admitting that their secretaries are giving formal technology training and advice to other workers.

James Reed, director of Reed Employment, said: "The demise of the secretary predicted by some has not happened. Their technical and

IT skills, combined with their organisational abilities, have secured the modern secretary a vital position at the heart of business. Instead of being pigeonholed as typists, secretaries are now called upon to play a major role as communicators and co-ordinators." The ratio of managers to secretaries is now five to one, compared with four to one four years ago.

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## Belgians fear paedophiles with power helped to protect killers

AS THE horrible deeds of Marc Dutroux have been exposed over the past two weeks, a chilling question has lingered in the minds of Belgians: how far did his network of child abduction and torture reach?

"These are testing moments for a society," *La Libre Belgique* said yesterday. "Brutally, it has lost contact with the references that serve in normal times."

The words testify to the sense of trauma and shame that has swept Belgium, casting a pall over the late summer and the start of the new school year. The arrest of nine other people, including a police inspector, and the seizure of hundreds of videotapes featuring the abuse of children have made clear that, unlike Frederick and Rose-

mary West in Britain, Dutroux was not an isolated madman with a compliant wife.

Echoing the talk of cafés and family meal tables, the media have speculated that paedophiles with power may have been behind the apparent immunity enjoyed by Dutroux as he cruised Belgium picking up girls, despite a shelf of police reports of his suspicious activities. He was finally arrested only after a boy remembered the number plate of his van near the

scene of an abduction. The lapses included failure to follow up on information that the unemployed and convicted child-rapist had been offering money for the abduction of girls and had built cellars in his houses around Charleroi. One image haunts the country: that of policemen searching Dutroux's cellar last winter, well before the girls died of starvation in March.

The officers believed his explanation that the children they heard were his own three offspring. At

about the same time, another team of police had Dutroux under surveillance, but the investigating judge in the case of Julie Lejeune and Mélissa Russo insists that its report never reached her.

The atmosphere of suspicion has thickened with the much criticised failure of Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister, to make any statement on the scandal. His aides said he wants to keep politics out of the investigation and the Government is to announce new measures against paedophiles tomorrow.

But parallels are being drawn, with no apparent evidence, to murky political-criminal affairs of recent years, notably the still unsolved murder of André Cools, a senior politician, in 1991. Belgium's fractured political system, coal-

tions of French and Dutch-speaking parties, has suffered a string of unresolved scandals involving money and violence. Among them was the affair which last year brought down Willy Claes, the chief of Nato and a former government minister.

Stefaan De Clerck, the Justice Minister, has promised to uncover the whole of the paedophile affair and restore his country's name. He insists that Michel Bourlet, the chief prosecutor, is not subject to any pressure. Mr Bourlet has promised to prosecute every adult he can identify on the videotapes with children.

Two weeks of furious media investigation and relative candour by prosecutors have offered an outline of the operations of

three adolescents early this year in a quarrel over stolen cars. Dutroux says he killed Bernard Weinstein, one of his accomplices in that affair, for informing on him. His body was found last week.

While six of the accused are small local criminals, the link to a wider operation is suggested by the arrest of Michel Nihoul, a Brussels estate agent on the prestigious Avenue Louise. Previously convicted of fraud involving a false charity, he faces charges of participating in a paedophile network.

But Michel Marteau, deputy editor of *La Dernière Heure*, said he believed the speculation about the involvement of high-placed officials would evaporate.

Leading article, page 15

### Lawyer refuses to defend Dutroux

BY CHARLES BREMNER

THE lawyer of Marc Dutroux, the confessed paedophile of Charleroi, has refused on moral grounds to represent him.

"I have a little girl of Julie and Mélissa's age who has been really disturbed by these events, and I do not think she could have understood that her father was defending this man," Didier de Quevyn said, referring to the two girls found dead at one of Dutroux's houses. Several other lawyers have refused to take the case.

Belgian police yesterday dug deeper in the grounds of one of Dutroux's houses, but said it could take days to find whether they contained the bodies of two teenagers they suspect are buried there.

However, the police did uncover a small underground corridor under one of the floors of the house, which had been inhabited by Dutroux's late accomplice, Bernard Weinstein.

Dutroux, who has admitted allowing two eight-year-olds to starve to death, told prosecutors he had buried more victims in the grounds of the house at Junet, near Charleroi. Heavy rain forced a halt to the digging last night.

## European widows exploit Sri Lanka teenagers for sex

FROM DOMINIC KENNEDY IN STOCKHOLM

WEALTHY widows from Europe are adopting teenage boys in Sri Lanka for sex by showering them with expensive gifts, according to a human rights organisation.

The women, in their fifties and sixties, are known as "godmothers" to the boys' unsuspecting families, who see them as godsend to alleviate their poverty.

The growing problem in a country where 20,000 boys are prostitutes, mainly working for homosexuals, was highlighted as the 130 nations represented here at the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children agreed on a eight-page declaration.

"It is difficult to do anything about it when it is a boy with a wealthy woman," Lakshman Jayakody, a Sri Lankan Cabinet minister, said yesterday. "They get the boys and give them everything."

Indra Nilawewa, director of the Samurdhi Women's Organisation in Sri Lanka, said one destination favoured by European widows was Hikkaduwa, a southern beach

resort where sex tourists stay with local families for about £2 a night. The women befriend the boys aged between 16 and 19, hawking shells or ornaments and stay in the teenagers' homes, with their parents' trust, and ask if their sons could sleep in the same room.

"In our society it is accepted that grandparents sleep with their grandchildren and nothing happens," said Ms Nilawewa. "The parents are mainly illiterate and are ignorant of these happenings."

The boys are rewarded with gifts of watches, fine clothes, radios and televisions while the women are staying with the families — usually for about three months during the northern winter. On their return, the widows send monthly cheques to the boys and, eventually, an air ticket to join them in Europe — often Germany and France.

After six months in Europe, the boys return, adapting Western ways. The widows buy land in the boys' names and build pleasant homes for their Sri Lankan lovers, with a home costing as little as

£8,000. They then bring their widowed friends during the holidays and the boys are expected to recruit sexual partners for them, too. These rich women have no intention of getting married. They are sexually exploiting poor children," Ms Nilawewa said.

The congress adopted an eight-page declaration calling on nations to combat child pornography, the trafficking of children for sex and sexual tourism. Some Third World charities, however, complained that nothing was being done to tackle home-grown sexual exploitation, such as marriages involving girls as young as ten.

Many Asians and Africans said their governments were happy to sign a declaration blaming foreign tourists for child-sex problems and believed the Western delegates were using the conference to ease their consciences.

Ruby Noble, who works for Save the Children in Bangladesh, said: "The concept of child marriage is a very important form of exploitation being excluded."

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

ROGER MOORE described yesterday his encounter with a child molester when he was eight years old and called for paedophiles to be given life sentences on their second offence.

The actor, who is also a goodwill ambassador for the United Nations Children's Fund, said he hoped British sex tourists who preyed on children in developing countries would be sent back to serve harsh prison terms in Third World jails. Mr Moore,

attending the Stockholm congress, also recounted his close escape from a paedophile.

"My friend Reg and I were in the Cubs. We had a tent and went up to Wimbledon Common and some dirty old rain-coated pervert came into our tent and started making a couple of remarks I didn't even understand. I went outside and he came out after a few minutes." He then made a lewd suggestion, Mr Moore said, but "Reg and I went fishing for tiddlers in the pond. When we came back our sandwiches were gone."

He said he did not tell his mother until he was 16. "Maybe I was afraid my mother wouldn't let us go camping again. What I am saying is that there is a guilt which children always have. They in some way feel responsible."

As Unicef envoy, Mr Moore said he met a nun in Brazil who introduced him to a 12-year-old girl who turned to prostitution after being raped when she was eight. "The nun said it was strange that you can get more attention about the rainforest than you can about the children."



Moore confronted by paedophile as a boy

## Actor tells of his 'pervert' encounter

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

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THE TIMES THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996

OVERSEAS NEWS 9

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## Chirac faces grim task as franc falls and strikes loom

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

PRESIDENT CHIRAC returned to work yesterday after his summer holiday to be greeted by sliding franc, depressed voters, a "gloomy" Cabinet and mounting threats of industrial action.

The franc lost ground again, wiping out the entire gain made since the drop in interest rates earlier this month, amid increasing doubts that France will be able to meet the criteria for European monetary union.

At the first Cabinet meeting of the autumn yesterday, M Chirac gave his ministers a stern pep talk, telling them to fight back against the general gloom. "According to com-

mentators, the Government's return to work has been marked by depression. And this is true," the President said.

Nearly 80 per cent of voters expect a repeat of last winter's devastating strikes and despite M Chirac's optimistic declaration that "the worst is over" most political analysts say the worst is probably yet to come. Unions leaders are gearing up for battle against a background of rising unemployment and anger over unplanned budget cuts and civil service job losses.

Louis Vianet, head of the powerful CGT union, attacked

M Chirac has insisted that France will not waver from the goal of a single currency. "We will stick to our European commitments, not out of pleasure, but because it is in the interests of France," he said, in the knowledge that any hint of compromise will further rattle the markets.

Even if Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, pushes his austerity budget through parliament, many economists say that in the "soiree" economic climate this will not be enough to meet the target of cutting the deficit to 3 per cent of GDP by next year to qualify for EMU.

The Government has pledged to cut taxes from next year while making savings of at least Fr80 billion (Fr8 billion). Meanwhile the social security deficit is set to exceed Fr50 billion by the end of the year, despite government predictions last year that the debt would be just Fr17 billion.

Apart from its economic headaches, the Government is still embroiled in a controversy over the violent eviction of African immigrants from a Paris church, while the latest upsurge of separatist violence in Corsica is a stark indication that the summer's fragile truce has finally disintegrated.

At least 7,000 civil service jobs are likely to be lost in the latest plans to cut spending. On Tuesday, teaching unions warned of probable strikes in late September or early October in protest at the expected 2,300 job losses in the education sector, the first such cuts for 15 years.

The Force Ouvrière union, which spearheaded last year's industrial unrest alongside the CGT, has called for a protest march on September 21, noting that "all the ingredients are there for an explosion".

"Our financial assistance will be focused on health, vocational training and social support, and the programme will help not only returnees but also the general community in Vietnam," Pollard Blakeley, the programme director, said.

The EU has already provided \$75 million (£48 million) towards the international effort to resettle 130,000 people

from camps in Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. The biggest remaining group — 14,000 people — is in Hong Kong, where the deadline for next July's handover to China has made the repatriation task more urgent.

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salem 'battle'

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## First Lady adopts soft-focus image to blot out shade of Lady Macbeth

WHAT stood out, first of all, was the poise. For someone who had never addressed a convention before, Hillary Clinton proved to be a very cool customer. But perhaps that is the rub. For all the references to "Bill" and "my husband", there was little warmth to the performance. There was not much genuine flavour either: it was somehow ersatz, like canned music or processed cheese.

The themes, though, could not have been safer: health, home and children. There was even a reference to the time their daughter Chelsea had been in hospital having her tonsils out — and "that night Bill and I didn't sleep at all". There could hardly have been a more transparent appeal for the parental sympathy vote.



The speech by the First Lady at the Democratic convention lacked warmth and flavour and appeared to have been crafted to cause the least offence, writes Anthony Howard in Chicago

Mrs Clinton had been introduced by Tipper Gore, the Vice-President's wife, no less — as "possessing the gift of a great mind and the blessing of a compassionate heart". But there was not, to be blunt, much evidence of either. Instead there was the kind of speech, or homily, that appeared to have been crafted with the aim of causing the least possible offence.

Mrs Clinton's beige, soft-furnishing performance was in sharp

contrast to the sort of speech that the First Lady's heroine, Eleanor Roosevelt, would have seen it as her duty to deliver. I was at Los Angeles in 1960 to hear the last speech Mrs Roosevelt gave to a Democratic convention, 25 years after leaving the White House.

The clamour at that time, as it has been here all week, was for unity, but the former First Lady was having none of that. For her a moral principle was at stake —

and, gauche and humbling, she advanced to the microphone to remind the party of the debt of loyalty it still owed to Adlai Stevenson. She was seconding his nomination that had been proposed in one of the best convention speeches ever by Senator Eugene McCarthy. It was all to no avail: the next night the Kennedy juggernaut carried all before it.

Maybe there was just a flicker of that sort of defiance, not so much in what Mrs Clinton said as in what she chose not to say. There was no hint of apology to her husband — indeed, to the American people — for the biggest legislative fiasco of the current administration: the failure to get its healthcare reform Bill reported out of committee even in a Democratic Congress.

It was an enterprise of which she had been put virtually in sole charge and, as an undoubtedly proud woman, she will bear the scars of that humiliation all her life. When last year she visited Canada and Ukraine and was congratulated on the comprehensiveness of her absurdly complex 1,300-page Bill, she impulsively told her friends of her sense of very vindication.

There was no reference to this experience in her convention speech. The new Hillary knows better than that. She possesses, after all, one of the highest "antipathy quotients" in modern American politics — a reminder that in Peoria and elsewhere not everyone has yet adjusted to the feminist revolution.

Because of her previously high exposure, the anxiety all along has

been that she will prove a liability to the Democratic ticket. That is almost certainly nonsense. The American electorate does not vote for First Ladies. But they can certainly either reassure or repel: Barbara Bush did the first and, for the past two years at least, it has looked as if Mrs Clinton, on balance, does the second.

Although here she is simply treading in the footsteps of her immediate Democratic predecessor, Rosalynn Carter — "the steel magnolia" of her husband's ill-fated administration — she cannot really claim the role of a hapless victim of sexual prejudice.

It was her decision, after all, to make a mysterious killing by trading in commodities while her husband was Governor of Arkansas.

sas; her initiative to clear out the staff of the White House travel office and substitute her friends; her Little Rock law firm's involvement in property development that led to the legal quagmire of Whitewater.

Her performance at the podium on the night before her husband's renomination is probably best seen as her effort to blot all that out. This required that she made a speech of pastel shades rather than of primary colours — and to that degree at least, probably at some cost to her own pride, she brought it off. She may not quite have become Caesar's wife, but she certainly did her best to shake off the legend of being Lady Macbeth.

Leading article, page 15

## Mrs Clinton fishes for family vote

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN CHICAGO

PRESIDENT Clinton was last night arriving in Chicago for his coronation at a Democratic convention newly galvanised by the First Lady and united as rarely before after conciliatory speeches from two top members of the party's vanquished liberal wing.

Hillary Clinton received a four-minute standing ovation when she appeared at the podium on Tuesday evening, and she delighted delegates with an unusually personal speech in which she argued that the Democrats, not the Republicans, were the real party of the family.

At the Republicans' convention in San Diego, Bob Dole, the party's presidential nominee, had mocked her recent book on child-rearing, *It Takes a Village*, claiming she wanted state collectives to take over the role of parents.

Mrs Clinton responded forcefully and directly, arguing that in raising her own daughter she had learnt that "it takes a family, it takes teachers, it takes clergy, it takes business people, it takes community leaders, it takes those who protect our health and safety, it takes all of us". To deafening cheers she added: "Yes, it takes a village."

Of course, parents were primarily responsible for their children, she said, "but we are all responsible for ensuring that children are raised in a nation that doesn't just talk about 'family values' but acts

**DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION '96**

in ways that value families". For a decade the Republicans have won majority support among families with children by promising tax cuts and less social permissiveness. Mrs Clinton's speech was part of a year-long White House attempt to woo those crucial voters with a pro-family agenda emphasising community responsibility.

Mrs Clinton has deplored Hollywood violence, called for a return to school uniforms

### Hillary 'kept' suicide note

A newly disclosed memorandum suggests that Hillary Clinton was responsible for a 30-hour delay in giving investigators the "suicide note" written by Vincent Foster (James Bone writes). The memo quotes Thomas McLarty, then White House Chief of Staff, as saying that Mrs Clinton called for the delay.

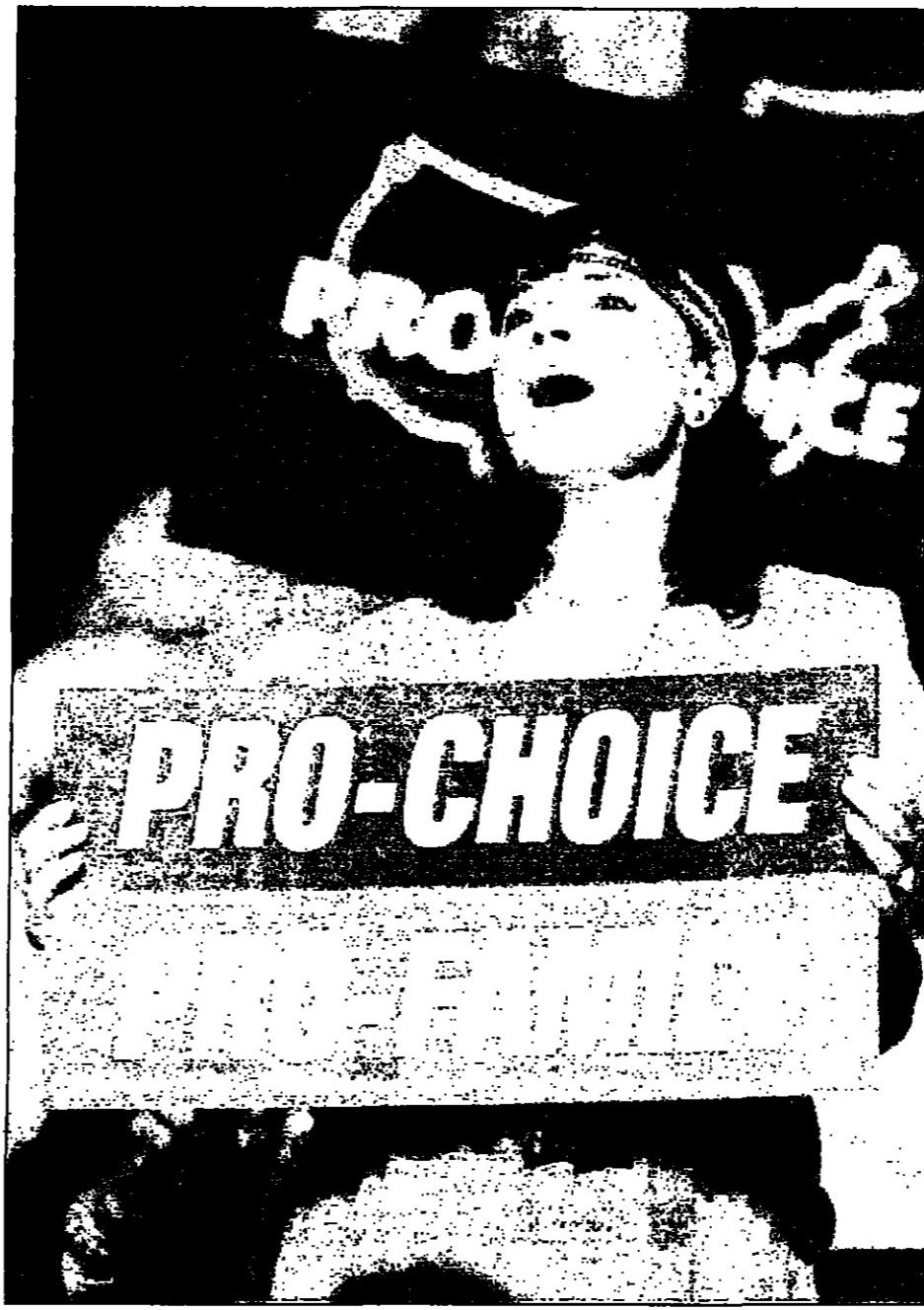
and lobbied for more educational programming. In the past week alone, as he has travelled by train towards Chicago, he has ordered a teenage smoking crackdown, a national child literacy crusade, additional gun controls and, yesterday, an accelerated clean-up of toxic waste sites.

Mrs Clinton listed numerous other ways in which her husband had acted, or intended to act, legislatively to help the family, but failed to mention that he had last week signed a radical Republican welfare reform Bill that could, by the Administration's own estimates, push a million children into poverty.

That signing dismayed liberal Democrats and risked major dissension here, as he has gone away with it. Jesse Jackson, the civil rights leader, and Mario Cuomo, the former New York Governor, both told the convention they thought the President was wrong, but noted his pledge to improve the Bill if re-elected, praised his wider record, and endorsed him anyway.

Mr Clinton will formally accept his party's presidential nomination tonight.

Bob Dole has moved to strengthen his campaign by appointing Donald Rumsfeld, a former Defence Secretary, as his campaign chairman, and William Bennett, a former education chairman, as a vice-chairman. Both were campaign advisers.



A pro-choice advocate represents the Democrats' liberal family image in Chicago

## Media overkill as viewers switch over

### CHICAGO NOTEBOOK

Chicago, nearly four for every delegate. The Washington Post has a team of 45.

The New York Times evidently has someone whose task is to scrutinise the almost instantaneous transcript of each speaker's words that appears on the giant screen behind them.

Its list of howlers yesterday included "Jack Buddhist thugs" for "jackbooted thugs", "Marry Oh Queen Oe" instead of Mario Cuomo, and "ideal logs" instead of "ideologues".

Despite the massive media presence just two news organisations have managed to obtain interviews with Hillary

Clinton. One was CNN. The other was Children's Express, a news service run for kids by kids. It may have helped, of course, that one of their reporters was the ten-year-old daughter of Harold Ickes, the deputy White House chief of staff.

For insights on Hillary, local radio stations have turned to Roger Clinton, the President's younger brother. His startling prediction is that she will one day seek the Oval Office herself. The President will be campaigning for Hillary after his term is over. Bill and Hillary have a lot more give to the country than just the next four years," said the First Brother. "Wait, it will happen."

This will come as rather a shock for Vice-President Al Gore, who is being almost

universally hailed as Mr Clinton's heir-apparent.

S PONTANEITY is a dirty word in Chicago this week. Ad-libbing from the podium is a capital offence. The party poliburo mass-produces banners to wave. Vendors can only sell officially sanctioned badges and stickers, far too tame to bother with. Even street demonstrations must be licensed. Thank goodness, then, for Tipper Gore, the Vice-President's spirited blonde wife. This week she was jogging by Lake Michigan when, without warning and to the horror of Secret Service agents, she plunged in. "Tipper the Dripper" they call her.

MARTIN FLETCHER

### Gift from Libya to be banned

BY JAMES BONE

THE United States Government is expected to block a donation of \$1 billion (£645 million) from Libya to the American black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan.

An US official was quoted yesterday as saying that the Treasury Department would almost certainly reject an application by Mr Farrakhan to receive the gift, despite the threat of legal action by his Nation of Islam.

"We will fight for what we believe is our legal right, and I will go across the nation stirring up not only my own people, but all those who would benefit from it," Mr Farrakhan said. "We are not terrorists."

Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, promised the gift to Mr Farrakhan during his trip to Tripoli in January. He plans to return to Libya this week to receive a \$250,000 prize.

Mike McCurry, the White House press secretary, said: "We would expect American citizens to honour their obligations under US law, which prohibits economic transactions involving Libya which

### Titanic 'struggle' resumes

FROM JAMES BONE  
IN NEW YORK

SALVAGE vessels resumed their effort to raise a section of the *Titanic* from the ocean floor yesterday after aborting the mission on Tuesday when specially designed balloons failed to float it to the surface.

The lifting of the 13-tonne chunk of wreckage from the doomed liner, struck by an iceberg on its maiden voyage on April 15, 1912 — with the loss of 1,522 lives — is the centrepiece of a much-criticised tourist cruise to the site of the shipwreck.

Although three *Titanic* survivors are aboard, including 99-year-old Edith Haisman, from Britain, others have called the expedition an act of "grave-robbing".



Firemen near Castaic, California, make their way through canyons to cut breaks to halt the wildfires

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# Drugs that can kill or cure



**Dr Thomas Stuttaford**  
reports on strong medicine for arthritis sufferers; diagnosing fractured skulls; the advantages of formula milk; alternative medicine, plus why oak trees can make you sneeze

Last week a woman in her 70s woke to find her pillow soaked in blood and immediately realised that she had bled from her mouth. Unfortunately, she started to vomit large quantities of blood and died before she could be successfully transfused and treated. The haematemesis, bleeding from the upper gastro-intestinal tract, was probably in part the result of taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). These anti-inflammatory drugs are used to treat the inflammation and pain in arthritic and allied conditions.

The NSAIDs are an invaluable tool in medicine and have revolutionised the lifestyles of patients who would otherwise be crippled, and rendered sleepless, by pain and stiffness. Unfortunately, the NSAIDs have a wide variety of side-effects. In occasional cases this group of drugs causes hypersensitivity reactions, wheezing, swelling of the lips and mouth, urticaria and other rashes. Sometimes the NSAIDs cause fluid retention which may even, in some elderly patients, induce heart strain. Other patients complain of ringing ears, dizziness and headaches and even more rarely liver, kidney and bone damage has been reported. Although this is an impressive list of possible troubles most of the hundreds of thousands of patients who take the drugs are not troubled by them; conversely far too many do suffer the side-effects associated with inflammation of the gastro-intestinal tract, the stomach and guts. Many patients complain of abdominal pain and nausea, symptoms which can be eased if patients take the drugs with food or milk.

Unfortunately, a severe, sometimes even fatal, reaction is a not uncommon sequel to the use of these anti-inflammatory drugs. When it is known that there is a history of recent stomach or duodenal ulceration NSAIDs are not prescribed, and most doctors are also wary about

A large study in 51 centres in ten countries has shown that the larger 75mg dose of diclofenac, when combined with the same amount of misoprostol, causes no more side-effects than the 50mg tablet, but can in some cases be more effective at relieving inflammation. Arthrotec is



Older patients are most at risk of severe complications from non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

not the complete answer but endoscopic examination shows that when it is taken, rather than a simple NSAID, the number of people who suffer gastro-intestinal side-effects falls from 19.4 to 6.7 per cent, and the combination halves both the numbers suffering serious complications

and anaemia. All anti-arthritis tablets should be taken with or after food and they should be swallowed with fluids, while the patient is standing up so that they do not stick in the gullet. Afterwards, the patient should not sit or lie down for 30 minutes. People should never delude themselves that they have cast-iron guts impervious to the strongest tablet because recent research has shown that serious complications of NSAID can appear without warning. Doses prescribed should always be as small as is effective, and certainly when my back is playing up I take Arthrotec.

## MOST babies are weaned from the bottle or breast to cows' milk, but some mothers continue to give their children a made-up formula milk, which includes added iron. Simple cows' milk is deficient in iron.

Research published in the *Archives of Diseases in Childhood* has shown that the "follow on" made-up formula milks for babies may have an advantage over

## A warning about weaning

cows' milk. The research, which was carried out in the Birmingham Children's Hospital, studied 100 inner-city children aged between six months and two years.

Only 3 per cent of those on the formula milk were anaemic at a year, only 2 per cent at 18 months, and none was anaemic by the

age of two. Conversely, at a year, 31 per cent of the babies who drank cows' milk were anaemic, at 18 months this had increased to 33 per cent, and 26 per cent were still anaemic at the age of two. Anaemia causes breathlessness and lowers resistance to infection.

Dr Jake Mackinnon, a consultant paediatrician with a large practice in West London, said: "Doorstep milk is deficient in iron but it may well be significant that these children came from a poor inner-city area."

"Certainly by the age of two, most children are taking a wide variety of other iron-containing foods and the iron content of milk would be less important."

# X-rays may fail to spot damage Skull fractures that lie hidden

**A**s a casualty officer one of my great fears was failing to diagnose a fractured skull. Patients who had fallen off motorbikes or cycles, been thrown from horses or fallen from windows were subjected to meticulous examination, and when possible questioning, and their X-rays were studied minutely.

A fracture of the vault is usually easy to diagnose on X-ray, but those running across the base of the skull may initially not be spotted on an X-ray and may only be diagnosed in the first instance because of the signs. The base of the skull is the shelf on which the brains rest and although a fracture there is easy to overlook it is much more dangerous than a simple vault fracture.

When I remember my own experiences, the casualty officer in a small hospital in Italy who failed to diagnose a fractured skull in Charlotte, a four-year-old friend, therefore had some, but not much, of my sympathy. The doctor failed to notice a fractured vault which perhaps would not have mattered, but also apparently did not understand the significance of bleeding from the ear, a rapidly blackening eye, and the patient's semi-comatose state. Fortunately the doctor, and the patient, were rescued by a good second opinion and Charlotte was helicoptered to a very efficient neurosurgical unit.

The accident happened when Charlotte's brother, Thomas, fell from a balcony after a balustrade gave way. He was not seriously hurt. Charlotte, who had an inquiring mind, peered over the edge to see what had happened, went too close to the brink and followed her brother over it.

The base of the skull is divided into three portions, the anterior, middle and posterior cranial fossa. Fracture of the anterior cranial fossa may result in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), the fluid from around the brain, leaking down the nose. This can lead to an ascending infection of meningitis or can cause bleeding into the orbit — a black eye.

Bleeding into the orbit from a fracture can be distinguished from an ordinary black eye as its colour has a purple hue. Only time will show whether her sense of smell has been affected, which is a very common sequel to fractures of the anterior cranial fossa.



Keep the chinstraps on

mixed with CSF, and does not clot. When the bleeding is from a local injury in the ear clotted occurs quickly.

Charlotte's signs therefore suggested that she had a fracture running across both the anterior and middle cranial fossa. She is now out of hospital apparently none the worse; there is no evidence of lasting brain damage, no loss of hearing, nor damage to the nerve supply of the muscles of the eye.

Only time will show whether her sense of smell has been affected, which is a very common sequel to fractures of the anterior cranial fossa.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

# SPIRIT OF ECSTASY

An exclusive interview with Faye Dunaway – on her phantoms, clouds and shadows



THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

## How alternative medicine works

THE Duchess of York and Diana, Princess of Wales, are renowned for their advocacy of alternative medicine. One of the Duchess's medical advisers is Richard Helfrich, who practises in Beverly Hills. Mr Helfrich has written a book, *Take Control of Your Health*.



Diana: valid treatment?

## When oak gets up your nose

DR ANDREW ROSS, another Birmingham doctor, has also been busy over the last seven years studying the cause of hay fever when it attacks patients in springtime, before there is much grass pollen in the atmosphere. The usually accepted medical opinion is that hay fever in April is more often than not the result of an allergy to birch pollen, or possibly to small quantities of some very early flowering grass.

The oak is such a prestige symbol that it seems almost unpatriotic to attack it. However, Dr Ross has reported in the *British Journal of General Practice* that he believes that the oak, and not birch, is responsible for springtime hay fever.

Dr Ross has shown that the peak incidence of early-season allergic rhinitis occurs after the birch has stopped flowering and before there is grass pollen in the air, but that it coincides with the period when the air is laden with oak pollen.

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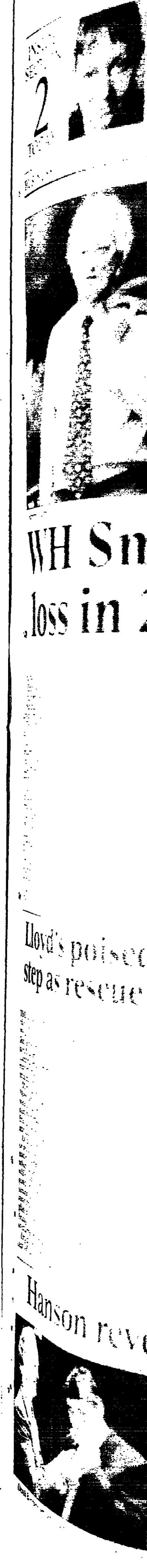
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# THE TIMES



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Can a sister act gain Britain the whip hand?  
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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996



Jeremy Hardie, left, WH Smith chairman, with Bill Cockburn, chief executive, yesterday. The group admits a full recovery will take four years

# WH Smith reports first loss in 204-year history

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

WH SMITH reported the first loss in its 204-year history yesterday and admitted that it is up to four years away from a full recovery.

The company made a pre-tax loss of £194.7 million in the year ending June 1 because of exceptional items and losses on discontinued activities of £293.5 million. Last year's profit was £100.9 million.

Bill Cockburn, chief executive, said that so far this year trading was patchy. "A lot of our heartland products, like books and stationery, are doing okay, but music, video and computer games sales are very poor. They are very dependent on the quality of new blockbuster releases and they have not been as good as last year."

But he said that after its major restructuring the group

was now on the right track. "We are in the foothills of the Cairngorms, but we still have the mountains to climb." He said that "the real challenge" is in WH Smith Retail, the division responsible for its 549-strong chain of shops.

Mr Cockburn has put the group through series of major changes since he took charge in January. It has disposed of its half share in Do It All, which Boots took off its hands. It has also sold Paperchase, its business supplies company, and Heathcote Books, and made around 1,100 staff redundant. According to Mr Cockburn: "The bulk of job cuts are now behind us. Although there is of course room for productivity improvement, the major disposals and disruptions are done."

Before exceptional items, the company made a pre-tax

profit of £98.8 million, compared to £115.2 million a year ago. Mr Cockburn said that if the results of companies disposed of during the year were added, the profit figure would have been £10 million lower.

WH Smith shares, which have recently been trading near their year's highest level, were down 4½ p, to 50½ p.

The company also announced yesterday that Simon Burke, managing director of Virgin Our Price, has resigned and will leave on November 1 to return to the Virgin Retail group, where he will be chief executive responsible for its retail and cinema businesses worldwide. WH Smith has yet to find a replacement.

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Temps, page 28  
Uphill fight, page 29

## Sears to close 200 shoe shops returned from Facia collapse

BY JASON NISSE

SEARS, the troubled retailer, is closing — at a cost of up to 2,000 jobs — 200 shoe shops that have come back to it after the collapse of the Facia empire run by Stephen Hinchliffe, the Sheffield businessman now the subject of a Serious Fraud Office inquiry.

About 90 of the shops have already been closed and the rest are being shut as soon as all the stock is sold. Huge sales are taking place in all shops still controlled by Sears, with customers being offered fixtures and fittings, as well as shoes at below half price.

Sears received back 370 shops because of the collapse of the Facia empire. It has already disposed of more than 100 in deals with the footwear groups Stylo and Stead & Simpson and has asked Healey & Baker, the chartered surveyor, to sell the rest.

Healey & Baker has now

been told to offer the 200 shops with "vacant possession".

meaning that the shop outlets will be closed by the time any buyer wants to occupy them.

Nearly 1,000 jobs have been lost with the approximately 90 shops already closed. Although the staff were technically employed by Mr Hinchliffe's companies, now in administration, Sears has agreed to make redundancy payments as if they had never left the employment of Sears.

This could cost the retailer more than £4 million.

The closures are expected to force Sears into losses in its half-year figures, to be announced next month. Tony Shiret, retailing analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, estimates that Sears will make £23 million of profits before provisions, which are now almost certain to plunge Sears into the red.

Liam Strong, chief executive of Sears, last month said that

the company would make provisions of £25 million to cover losses on properties reverting to it because of Facia's collapse. Part of this has already been used up, with Sears having to pay Stylo an £8.75 million incentive to take just 61 Saxon stores off its hands. Now it appears the provisions will have to be substantially higher than £25 million.

Sears put in a claim for £30 million to KPMG, the receiver of Facia, because of money that it says is owed to it for stock and other services provided to Mr Hinchliffe's em-

pire by Sears.

Although it is unlikely that

Sears will lose the whole £30 million claimed, because it will receive money from the sale of stock left in Facia, it is also unlikely to recover anywhere near the whole amount.

Its net losses from this claim could exceed £10 million.

Sears has already written off £54 million, treated as exceptional losses, as a result of selling its Saxon and Freeman Hardy Willis chains to Mr Hinchliffe's companies.

The empire collapsed after proceedings were started by the Department of Trade and Industry to have Mr Hinchliffe struck off as a director, and Sears put three of his companies into administration.

The SFO is now investigating transfers of up to £10 million from some Facia companies to other groups controlled by Mr Hinchliffe and, two weeks ago, raided addresses in Sheffield and London that had connections with Mr Hinchliffe.

Mr Hinchliffe, though, re-

tains a high profile and was recently seen in the directors' box at Sheffield United Football Club.

Pennington, page 27

## BUSINESS TODAY

### STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3918.7	(+1.3)
Yield	3.95%	
FT-SE A All share	1938.24	(+0.05)
NIKE	20708.61	(-200.45)
New York		
Dow Jones	5723.11	(+11.84)
S&P Composite	665.79	(+0.39)

### US RATE

Federal Funds	5.97%	(5.95%)
Long Bond	9.77%	(9.75%)
Yield	6.97%	(6.95%)

### LONDON MONEY

3-month interbank	5.97%	(5.95%)
Little long gilt future (Sep)	107.4%	(107.4%)
Euro		
STERLING		
New York	1.5595*	(1.5546)
London	1.5593	(1.5557)
\$	1.5593	(1.5557)
DM	2.3015	(2.2987)
FFR	7.2034	(7.2000)
SGF	1.5875	(1.5850)
Yen	169.04	(167.62)
S Index	85.0	(84.8)

### USD £ DOLLAR

1-yr	2.3015	(2.2987)
London		
DM	1.4765*	(1.4785)
FFR	5.0655*	(5.0575)
SGF	1.1965*	(1.1955)
Yen	103.41*	(107.70)
S Index	95.0	(95.0)

### TOKYO close Yen 108.49

Month	108.49
1-day	
Brent 15-day (Nov)	\$20.05 (\$19.65)
London close	\$388.55 (\$388.55)

\* denotes midday trading price

## Rothschild

NM Rothschild, the family controlled merchant bank rocked by the death of Amschel Rothschild last month, is to shake up its senior management structure. Page 27

## Childcare

The Government published a consultation paper on increasing childcare, although it gave no hint on whether it would give in to pressure on extending tax relief for companies offering workplace childcare to childcare provision in the home. Business welcomed the proposals. Page 26

Childcare

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## Trade boost as index hits high

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A NEW stock market record high yesterday coincided with an encouraging set of British trade figures and an excellent auction of government bonds.

The FT-SE 100 index finished 13 points up, at a new closing high of 3,918.7. Although the rise largely reflected another positive performance on Wall Street, the positive economic news provided background confidence.

Britain's trade deficit with the rest of the world was £1.12 billion in June, virtually unchanged from May and better than City forecasts of a £1.4 billion shortfall.

Figures for Britain's trade performance with non-European countries were also published, and showed the deficit narrowing to £56 million in July, from £1.1 billion in June. Exports were up 6.7 per cent, while imports fell by 1.2 per

cent, mainly because of lower imports of aircraft.

The Office for National Statistics said that the pattern of the deficit has been erratic

and that it is difficult to judge the overall trend. Its best guess, however, is that the trend is flat.

This is encouraging given that stronger demand at home ought to be sucking in imports, and exports were expected to have been held back by sluggish growth in Europe.

Hopes that accelerating economic growth this year will help to reduce government borrowing was one factor that prompted strong demand at yesterday's £2.5 billion auction of 7.5 per cent gilts due in 2006.

The sale attracted bids of more than two and a half times the total amount on offer, a very good result.

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Culture changes threaten tobacco sector  Regulation has some way to go  Fund managers contemplate Labour in power

AS BEFFITS its name, Imperial Tobacco has spent the past century at war with our former colonies. Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose. The company was formed at the turn of the century in a desperate attempt by the British tobacco trade to fend off the unwanted attentions of the American Tobacco Company.

The famous names of the British tobacco industry, Messrs Wills, Player, Lambert and Butler, realised that only by pulling together could they see off the financial might of James "Buck" Duke, a Lord Hanson of his day, whose favoured takeover tactic was to turn up unannounced at a factory and explain why the company could not survive a bout of ATC price-cutting.

Imperial's defensive tactics worked. Mr Duke retreated home after receiving a jolly good hiding in the UK. The two companies signed an uneasy peace treaty, effectively withdrawing from each other's markets and a third firm, British American Tobacco, took control of exports of Imperial brands.

After 90 years of an increasingly fragile peace, the about-to-be independent Imperial is about to find itself at war again with America on two fronts. Imperial will have to take on the might of the big American tobacco companies and BAT, as it goes in

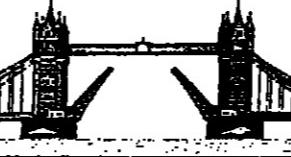
search of new markets to help wean itself off the UK. Imperial generates about 87 per cent of its profits in the UK, but the market here is in rapid decline, with the tax and regulatory environment destined only to become stricter. As befits a graduate of the Hanson school, the management have all the number-crunching skills and should be able to find some more cost-savings and productivity gains to make its market share go that bit further.

The company has also made some successful entries into new markets—including winning a 4 per cent share of the American blend market in France with a new product. But Imperial lacks real global presence, let alone a world renowned brand. For all its excited talk of the vast untapped markets in the East, the company may find itself struggling in the scramble to find new customers outside of the declining Western markets.

But it is the fallout from the anti-smoking war being waged in the US that could have a more lasting negative effect. Imperial

has no presence in the US and has no plans to enter the market. What looked like a financial life sentence. Has Mr Howard been informed? Not that many will jump for joy at finally being

## PENNINGTON



### New angst for old at Lloyd's

KNOWING Lloyd's, expect an imminent intervention by Michael Howard. The main impact of Lloyd's rescue plan going through will be to free thousands of names at last from what looked like a financial life sentence. Has Mr Howard been informed? Not that many will jump for joy at finally being

fleeced and released. But losing your wool once and for all is better than being condemned to wander the earth with open syndicates round your neck to remind you of your own and others' folly.

The Home Secretary played a minor part in the downfall of the old Lloyd's when he piloted his generally admirable Financial Services Act through Parliament. He left Lloyd's out. Appalling conflicts of interest continued, as they do to this day.

The Department of Trade and Industry and the Treasury are now more relevant. Barring further American legal appeals, landslide votes on both sides of the Atlantic for the £3.2 billion settlement pave the way for past

nasties to be swept up in Equitas, the all-purpose reinsurance dustbin. But Equitas still has to be approved by the DTI to establish Lloyd's solvency. That solvency, based on much lower Equitas premiums than first thought, must also be maintained.

Passing of the rescue plan will unleash a frenzy of corporate activity. Incorporation of agency partnerships helped to destroy the old Lloyd's. Mergers may be as vital now to create firms that can offer efficient, rule-observing service at much lower cost.

Professionals will increasingly deal with corporate underwriters who do not enjoy the tax and operational benefits of sole traders. Costs must be cut and Lloyd's will cede business as well as jobs. It should find new market niches but may also fall under outside control.

Regulation also has a long way to go. Future names, mostly super-rich or insiders, will demand a better deal, not least to ease conflicts with corporate capital. New investors, and traders in capacity, need the same protection as in other markets. Individual authorisation should

cull many. Maybe Lloyd's can then focus on natural disasters, which it handles so much better than those of its own making.

### The City's new bogeyman

JUST as children get more frightened by bogeymen, urban evenings draw in so too are fund managers becoming a little uneasy about the prospects of a Labour government.

Until yesterday, the chief bogeyman was Alastair Darling, who as Labour's City frontbench spokesman put the fear of excessive regulation and poverty into City types. Now Mike O'Brien takes on the mantle, and memories of his persistent but incisive questioning on the Treasury Select Committee will be worrying regulators and practitioners alike as the election looms.

A solicitor by profession, O'Brien is not quite the New Danger that Darling was perceived to be by fund managers worried that he was going to tear up the regulatory rulebooks and start again with an SEC-style

statutory system. Images of Ivan Boesky on his way to jail upset City insiders, who feel that the self-regulatory system in Britain is already a tad too tight.

On top of that there is the worry of Labour's plans for an easier, simpler, cheaper pensions system giving little scope for high commissions and hoodwinking customers.

It is not quite the same as the nervousness back in 1987 when wiser, older, City voices gave warnings that, after more than a decade of rising markets, young fund managers would not be able to cope with a bear market. But after 16 years of Conservative rule, many have no experience of dealing with a Labour government. Now the siren voices are putting their own money beyond the reach of the taxman and the New Danger.

### Strong question

IT WAS inevitable that Sears would end up closing the majority of the shoe shops it sold to Stephen Hinchliffe. But what of Liam Strong? The Sears chief executive has pinned his reputation on sorting out the beleaguered British Shoe Corporation. His chairman Bob Reid has publicly defended him twice. When Sears reveals a half-year loss, will Reid be able to defend Strong a third time?

## Unigate sells and leaves America

Unigate, the milk and fresh foods group, has completed its withdrawal from the US with the sale of its Taco Bueno chain of fast-food Mexican restaurants for \$42 million. The larger part of the American restaurant business, the Black-eyed Pea diners, were sold in June for £42 million.

Unigate is selling Casa Bonita, the subsidiary that owns the Taco Bueno business, to CKE Restaurants, a US quoted company.

Casa Bonita has 109 Taco Bueno restaurants in Texas and Oklahoma. It made operating profits of \$4.6 million in the year to March 1996. Unigate said the sale left the group totally focused on its European food and distribution businesses.

### Internet stake

Megalomedia, the fast-growing media group headed by Maurice Saatchi, is paying £20.250 for an 11 per cent stake in Webmedia Group, a UK-based Internet company. The deal will help Megalomedia expand into new media alongside Framestore, the recently acquired film and video technology company.

### Tag 'float'

TAG Heuer International, the Swiss-based watchmaker, has appointed Salomon Brothers and SBC Warburg to advise on a possible flotation. The company has been revitalised in the past seven years under a team led by Christian Virens, chief executive officer.

### Gencor adds

Gencor, the South African mining group, has lifted its stake in Alusaf, the aluminium smelter, to 73 per cent after the preference share issue. Gencor purchased the stake from South Africa's Industrial Development Corporation.

### Cash raiser

Pemberton, the investment and property management company, has successfully completed its placing and open offer, raising £7.1 million to pay off borrowings and fund new acquisitions.

### FKI buys

FKI is buying Nuova Marelli Motor, an Italian maker of low voltage electric motors and alternators, for £35 million in cash. FKI will also assume debt of £17.5 million.

### Dunlop deal

Dunlop Slazenger Group, the international sports equipment company, is buying the Dunlop Slazenger division of BRT Dunlop in South Africa for £3.3 million.

## Rothschild initiates review of structure

BY JASON NISSE

N M ROTHSCHILD, the family-controlled merchant bank rocked by the suicide of Amschel Rothschild last month, is to shake up its senior management structure.

One of the three non-family members who form the management committee is to leave the bank, another is likely to reduce his role and a recently appointed director from outside the bank is to join the management committee.

David de Rothschild, who comes from the French arm of the family, has been seen as the most likely successor to Sir Evelyn, who is 64. However, in the wake of the death of Amschel Rothschild, who was the most senior member of the English family after Sir Evelyn, close friends of Sir Evelyn now expect him to remain in charge for a further decade to bring his sons into the business.

The first signs of the changes are the imminent departure of Bernie Myers, who, with corporate financiers Russell Edey and Tony Ali, sits on the management committee which advises Sir Evelyn on the running of the bank.

Mr Myers, who has the title of managing director and has worked with Sir Evelyn for more than 20 years, is to leave in October, but will be retained by Rothschild as a consultant.

Mr Myers is to be replaced on the committee by Tony Chapman, a lawyer from the City firm of Freshfields who joined the bank only at the beginning of this year.

Mr Chapman is said by insiders to have the ear of Sir Evelyn, having been his personal legal adviser for many years, and now occupies the office directly opposite Sir Evelyn on the fourth floor of Rothschild's headquarters in the City.

It is also expected that Mr Edey will reduce his role at the bank and may leave the executive committee. He is the joint managing director of corporate finance and is largely in charge of international relations.

There had been suggestions that Mr Edey might leave the bank, but it is believed that he is to be given a more ambassadorial role, relieving him of administrative functions and

## Johnston Press up to £12m after sale

BY OUR BUSINESS STAFF

JOHNSTON PRESS, the regional newspaper publisher and printing group, made pre-tax profits of £1.26 million in the half year to June 30, up from £8.1 million a year before.

The figure was flattered by a net exceptional gain of £2.9 million relating to the sale of the Bury Times to Newsquest in April. Excluding exceptional items, pre-tax profit rose by 10 per cent, from £8.8 million to £9.7 million.

The results do not take into account Johnston's £205 million purchase of Emap's regional newspaper interests.

announced in June and completed last month.

Operating profit rose to £10.3 million, from £8.8 million, on sales of £57.7 million (£49.5 million). Earnings per share were 4.92p (4.4p). A 0.75p interim dividend due on November 3 is the same as a year ago, but equals a 4.8 per cent rise when adjusted for the rights issue that helped to fund the Emap deal.

At operating level, newspapers provided £8.7 million of profit, bookbinding £900,000 and bookselling, the only division to fall, £300,000.

## Firecrest stake sold

SHARES in Firecrest, the AIM-listed marketing group, rose from 54p to 59p yesterday after an announcement that Camelot Corporation, its largest external shareholder, had sold its 10.2 per cent stake (Fraser Nelson writes).

The two companies first collaborated on the Digiphone, which Camelot makes and Firecrest distributes. Camelot, now part of the AIM-listed company Meteor, gained the stake as part-payment for the distribution rights.

Firecrest provides advertising and direct marketing services and markets mobile telephones.

## Cortworth delivers record results

BY OLIVER AUGUST

CORTWORTH, the specialist engineering group that floated last December, yesterday announced record pre-tax profits (Fraser Nelson writes).

In the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits rose to £5 million (£2.3 million). Earnings per share increased 13 per cent to 7.1p and the interim dividend was set at 2.1p.

Roger Pinnington, the chairman, said: "Throughout the group, organic growth continues to be encouraged with quality customer service and new product development.

"Acquisitions will play a

## Kalon hurt by French politics

BY FRASER NELSON

FRENCH employment policy has held back Kalon, the paint company taken to court by unions over its plan to axe 300 jobs at Euridep, its French subsidiary.

Kalon's restructuring programme, designed to bed down last year's £330 million acquisition of Euridep, has been challenged under legislation stemming from the social chapter. The company must satisfy the courts that it has exhausted every other means of cutting costs.

The French Government delivered a second blow by cutting back on painting council houses to reduce public spending.

Returning results for the six months to June 30, Mike Hennessy, managing director, said: "There was no way we could have foreseen this political situation when we bought Euridep last year. But our French operations now have a considerable upside, which we should begin to see when the economy begins to recover."

Pre-tax profits rose from £11.6 million to £19.6 million, but earnings fell from 4.68p a share to 3.7p. An interim dividend of 1.7p (1.6p) will be paid on October 3.

Kalon will learn on September 13 whether the first phase of its French restructuring programme has been approved.

## Housing pick-up heats Stoves profits by 42%

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Sean O'Connor, chairman, left, John Crathorne and Jim Bates, finance director

STOVES, the fast-growing cooker manufacturer, is starting to feel the benefit of the pick-up in the housing market.

John Crathorne, chief executive, believes the stimulus will help the UK cooker market to grow 5.6 per cent this year, bringing sales of around £340 million. Moving home often prompts the purchase of a new cooker.

Stoves reported strong second-half results, increasing pre-tax profits for the year ending in May by 42 per cent to £4.3 million. Sales rose 29 per cent to £63 million. This means Stoves, which came to

market in June, has tripled in size in the past five years.

The

company said the new financial year had begun well, with sales showing considerable growth on last year, when the first half was hit by the hot summer and higher raw material prices. Stoves attributes its success in winning market share to its flexible manufacturing methods, which allow it to keep stocks low and to respond quickly to new orders and changing demands.

Stoves hopes that the combination of its flexibility and the phasing out of the last of its old manufacturing technology will enable it to increase profit

margins. It achieved margins of 8 per cent in the second half, but for the year as a whole margins were marginally lower at just below 7 per cent.

Stoves is well advanced with plans to build up its overseas sales, particularly in France and Germany. Mr Crathorne said the company has still to decide whether to make an overseas acquisition.

A final dividend of 3.5p makes a total of 5.2p. Stoves said this represented a 15 per cent rise on the dividend that it would have paid if it had been listed for its 1994-95 year.

Tempus, page 28

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

# Bears scurry for cover amid brokers' warnings

**STOCK** market bears scurried for cover as the equity market resumed its record-breaking run, with prices being squeezed steadily higher.

But brokers were telling private clients last night not to chase the market any higher.

The FT-SE 100 index grew in confidence after a cautious start before ending just below its best of the day with a rise of 13.0 points at a new closing high of 3,918.7. The previous best of 3,907.5 was reached last week.

Confirmation that the Bank of England had successfully got its latest gilt auction away combined with some better than expected trade figures to boost City confidence.

But some of the moves, particularly among leading shares, owed more to an absence of sellers and persistent stock shortages than genuine retail demand.

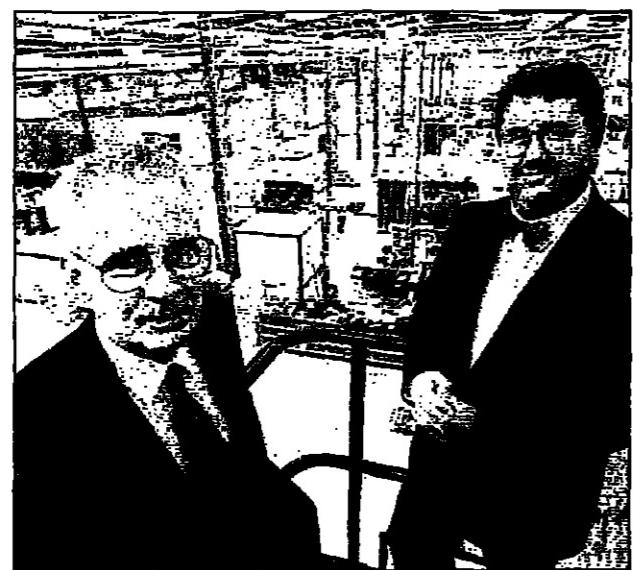
This was clearly reflected among turnover levels, where at the end of business only 623 million shares had changed hands. In these sort of conditions, it is easy for private investors to find themselves sitting on hefty losses in a short space of time.

Lloyds Abbey became the latest focus of attention for the speculators as the price soared 32p to 593p on suggestions that the mighty Prudential might choose to bid. Prudential is sitting on more than £2 billion in cash after this week's sale of Mercantile & General, its reinsurance subsidiary.

The Woolwich Building Society, which is looking to float on the stock market, is also seen as a target for the Prudential, 2p higher at 440p. The rise in the Lloyds Abbey share price was also good for Lloyds TSB, up 8½p at 380½p.

Revived talk of a takeover boosted Zeneca, which ended 17p dearer at 152.0 on turnover of less than a million shares. Persistent claims that EMI, which was recently demerged, will eventually be bid for was good for its shares, which rose 10p to 14.85. However, it seems more likely that the rise is down to institutional investors continuing to increase their weighting in the stock.

Stock shortages were reckoned to be behind the rise in United News & Media, publisher of the *Daily Express*, which ended the day 17½p better at 722½p after recent disposals. Just 1.4 million had traded by the close. First-time



Colin Billiet, left, and Brian Thompson saw Dominick Hunter shares rise on the back of improved profits

dealings in Dairy Crest, the dairy products producer, got off to a flying start with the help of strong institutional support. Placed at 15p, the price started at 18p and quickly climbed to a peak of 19½p before ending the session at 19½p, a premium of 4½p. Turnover reached almost 20 million as institutional investors attempted to snap up

October. Shareholders have been promised that Imperial Tobacco will pursue a liberal dividend policy. BZW has thrown its weight behind the moves by Hanson and is sticking with its top of the range valuation for the shares. This estimates that the sum of the parts for Hanson amounts to 193p, purely on trading grounds alone. James Ritchie,

Further reflection of this week's £200 million sale of its 50 per cent stake in the Carlsberg-Tetley joint venture to Bass has focused attention back on Allied Domecq, up 11p to 464½p. Brokers say the sale should enhance earnings almost straight away. Kleinwort Benson has moved from a "hold" to a "buy".

more shares after the bulk of the issue had been offered to milk producers. Of the 70 million shares offered to the farmers, almost 90 per cent took up the offer rather than accept a cash alternative.

Hanson slipped 1p to 161p after outlining further details of its proposed demerger that begins with Imperial Tobacco and Millenium Chemicals in

October. Shareholders have been promised that Imperial Tobacco will pursue a liberal dividend policy. BZW has thrown its weight behind the moves by Hanson and is sticking with its top of the range valuation for the shares. This estimates that the sum of the parts for Hanson amounts to 193p, purely on trading grounds alone. James Ritchie,

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In the futures pit, the September series of the Long Gilt hardened £16 to £107½ as investors continued switching into the December series. This helped to swell turnover in the September series to 82,000 contracts. At the long end, Treasury 3 per cent 2021 firmed to £97½, while in shorts, Treasury 7½ per cent 1998 closed all square.

□ **NY WALL STREET**: Wall Street stocks were slightly higher in a sluggish session that saw much of the activity limited to a few individual issues. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 11.84 points to 5,723.11.

Source: DATASTREAM  
HANSON DEMERGER DETAILS PEARL TO IMPRESS Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug

Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug

leaving an overall deficit of £194.7 million.

The outcome was much as analysts had been led to believe by the group's trading update in June that signalled huge write-offs relating to restructuring and the sale of its stake in Do-It-All. Sales were described as patchy although some brokers now see WH Smith as a recovery play.

Provident Financial rose 10p to 462p after half-year figures showed pre-tax profits £6.4 million up at £47.5 million.

A useful improvement in half-year pre-tax profits at Dominic Hunter of £700,000 to £4.2 million was rewarded with a rise of 3p to 400½p. Brian Thompson is splitting the roles of chairman and chief executive. He will remain chairman while Colin Billiet is appointed chief executive.

A "for sale" sign appears to have gone up at First Information, the CD Rom group, where the price plunged 67½p to 100p on the news that it was seeking an investor to maintain its development programme. The announcement was accompanied by news of a significant drop in sales.

Shares of Hanover International remained from a suspension 4½p higher at 130p. The group has just completed the acquisition of six hotels financed by a placing and open offer at 125p.

□ **GILT-EDGED**: Investors breathed a sigh of relief on learning that the latest auction, £2.5 billion of Treasury Bonds, encouraged investors in London to begin picking up stock.

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## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	5,723.11 (+1.84)
S&P Composite	666.79 (+0.39)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	20,709.31 (+204.6)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	11,370.49 (+0.50)
Amsterdam:	
EOD Index	563.38 (+2.97)
Sydney:	
ASX	2,284.2 (-21.9)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2,563.16 (+4.32)
Singapore:	
SGX STI	2,159.88 (-11.57)
Brussels:	
General	9524.05 (-20.89)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2,002.90 (-15.09)
Zurich:	
SWX Gen	777.80 (-0.40)
London:	
FT 30	3,838.0 (+3.8)
FT 100	3,918.7 (+13.0)
FT-SE Mid 250	443.78 (+4.5)
FT-SE 350	1,960.5 (+0.7)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1,660.30 (+1.01)
FT All-Share	1,936.24 (+0.05)
FT Non Financials	2,039.59 (+3.95)
FT Fleet Interest	1,113.54 (-0.11)
FT Stock Index	92.79 (-0.78)
Bargains	3,157
SEAO Volume	+223,907
USM (Daxmark)	207.71 (+0.80)
US	1,599.5 (+0.038)
German Mark	2,301.05 (+0.028)
Swiss Franc	1,016.10 (+0.02)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
ECU	1,209.5
ESDR	1,066.2
RPI	152.4 Jul (2.2%) Jan 1987-100
RPX	151.9 Jul (2.8%) Jan 1987-100

Source: Eurex, FTSE, Bourse Datastream

**THE  
TIMES**  
**CITY  
DIARY**

**It has to be  
Tunbridge**

TUNBRIDGE WELLS is being touted as the true blue stronghold that may tickle Asda boss Archie Norman's political taste-buds. Now that Norman will have more time on his hands, after announcing he will stand down as chief executive of the supermarket chain, the Tunbridge Wells constituency must look welcoming. The seat fell vacant six weeks ago when Sir Patrick Mayhew, Northern Ireland Secretary, decided to step down, and is one of a handful still without a Tory candidate. Out of 180 applicants, a candidate is expected to be placed before the end of next month. There are, however, no Asda stores in Tunbridge Wells.

**SIR DAVID MONEY-COUTTS,** who will stand down as M&G's non-executive chairman next January, is planning to write his autobiography. As soon as David Morgan steps into his shoes, Sir David will put pen to paper; he wants to share his life at the family bank and his love of almshouses with his burgeoning family.

**Entente cordiale**  
GILLIAN SHEPHERD, the Education and Employment Secretary, will tomorrow become the first British minister to meet his or her French opposite number in their local constituency, as opposed to political Paris. French politicians trying to cut their social costs are increasing keen to listen to what the Government claims is Britain's success story over jobs, and Shephard — a fluent French speaker — will detail Britain's performance in talks at Le Puy, with Jacques Barrot, France's labour minister.



**Smokescreen**

AS IMPERIAL Tobacco is set to resume its life as an independent company after its demerger from Hanson, the directors of Enlightened Tobacco, which brought us "Death Cigarettes", are finalising a programme to lobby the European Commission. Last summer the company was banned from operating a scheme that lets smokers in Britain buy and import cigarettes from Luxembourg, without paying the UK's high rates of duty. Troubled by Enlightened's trick, Imperial Tobacco commissioned a report from Coopers & Lybrand, which states that the tax ruse could, if legal, take 40 per cent of the market, and 90 per cent in the long term, at fearful cost to the Exchequer. Strange — I can't see any reference to the report in the demerger details.

**Switched on Fry**

ANTHONY FRY, BZW's new corporate finance recruit, is showing his colleagues why he's seen as a star in the firmament of media finance. When Fry was invited to speak at the Edinburgh International Television Festival on the privatisation of Channel 4, there was much speculation as to whether Channel 4's Michael Grade would also hold forth at the session. "Michael won't give up the chance to air his views," opined Fry, and offered to put his money where his mouth was. Yesterday he was back in BZW's offices, collecting his winnings.

MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW



JANET BUSH

# Bankers are short-changing people on jobs and growth

**The bond market  
Jeremias should  
stop exaggerating  
the threat posed  
by inflation**

**T**he world's leading central bankers convene today for their annual jolly in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Their theme is "achieving price stability". How predictable and how inappropriate.

If the publication of Japan's Tankan survey of business confidence yesterday told us anything, it is that the achievement of growth is a far more testing challenge at the moment than fighting inflation.

Reuters reported that Japanese financial markets were "stunned" by news that the Tankan survey's key measure of business optimism had fallen. Most economists surveyed by the news service had expected a rise, as had seven out of 15 think-tanks. A second useful point is illustrated — that the financial markets and many economists do not understand the current behaviour of the world economy.

The current global upswing has constantly surprised in two ways. Growth has taken longer to lift off in many countries than most observers expected and, once growth is well established and even deemed to be above-trend, there has scarcely been a hint of price pressures. This year, markets have predicted interest rate rises in America, Britain, Germany and Japan. They have fallen in Germany and Britain and stayed on hold in the US. The latest Tankan survey should now finally put to rest any thought of higher rates in Japan.

Nothing can ever be irrevocably proved in economics, but there does seem to be mounting evidence in the current cycle that economies can grow faster and for longer without igniting inflation. Roger Bootle, chief economist at Midland Bank and author of *The Death of Inflation: Surviving and Thriving in the Zero Era*, believes that the case is virtually proven in America, in recovery for five years with no signs of higher inflation, and almost proven in Britain, in recovery for four and expecting inflation to fall further.

The proposition is far harder to prove in Europe, not least because most of the continent is engaged in cutting deficits to an astonishingly tight timetable dictated by the Maastricht Treaty and the 1999 deadline for monetary union. In Japan, the after-shocks of the violent bursting of the 1980s asset price bubble are still reverberating and any longer-range economic analysis is difficult. But we do know that the Japanese economy has had four years with virtually no growth in spite of repeated fiscal packages to stimulate the economy and a depreciation in the yen. After yesterday's news, the surge in growth in the first quarter must be an aberration.

For all the accumulating evidence that the world really might have changed, some attitudes remain die-hard. Take the Bank of England. In its last *Inflation Report*, there was a long passage describing reforms to the labour market which had made it more flexible. The Bank floated the possibility that the economy may now be able to grow faster and longer, and create more jobs, before igniting inflation. But Mervyn King, the Bank's chief economist, said that the evidence was still not conclusive enough to factor it

into inflation forecasting. This is caution to a fault, stemming partly from the Bank's narrow government-imposed remit to look only at inflation and not at the general well-being of the economy. Its role thus defined, it is not the Bank's job to take risks. And so it is that the Bank advocates raising interest rates at a time when manufacturing investment, according to last Friday's figures, fell for the third successive quarter to stand 4.5 per cent lower than a year ago. The Chancellor's pragmatism [and instinct for re-election] provides the necessary balance.

The situation in America is more sensible. The Fed, which has a dual role to care for both inflation and growth, is prepared — courtesy of the excellent brand of pragmatism and open-mindedness embodied in Alan Greenspan, its chairman — to acknowledge the possibility that the economy's sustainable growth rate may have risen. Even after the creation of millions of new jobs and an investment boom, Mr Greenspan is prepared to hold firm on rates against the wishes of the inflation paranooids in the Treasury bond market, until he sees a real reason to raise them. Even the Bundesbank, which "shocked" markets with last week's aggressive 30 basis point repo cut, interprets M3 money supply flexibly and uses instinct to interpret the real economy.

Mr Bootle advocates policymakers using their eyes and ears, keeping along and seeing what happens, an approach quite at odds with that of the Bank of England. "The Bank proceeds on the assumption that there are warning signals which must be heeded and then a long, black tunnel of ignorance. At the end of two years, up pop the inflationary results," he said. But it is not necessarily the case that a single opportunity presents itself to take the right policy decision and, if that moment is not seized, dire conse-

quences follow. Apart from anything else, it is probably true that the lag between interest rate changes and their effect on the economy has shortened considerably. In the past, this was assumed to be 18 months to two years — hence the Bank's two-year-ahead approach to forecasting inflation.

As central bankers meet in Jackson Hole, there is some evidence that they are beginning to realise that inflation may not be the threat that it was. The Fed and Bundesbank decisions can both be seen in that light. And yet the inflation Jeremias warn darkly that the banks are in danger of "falling behind the curve", leaving it too late, becoming complacent just when inflation is about to rear up again.

We must fervently hope that the discussions dismiss such talk. If central bankers continue to keep monetary policy pre-emptively tighter than necessary, at a time when budget deficits around the world are being cut, the proposition that inflation is dead, dormant, temporarily tamed, will not be tested because economies will not be allowed to grow enough. By continually wringing their hands over inflation, central bankers risk short-changing the world quite unnecessarily on growth, jobs and living standards.

**I**f anything, the evidence is of intensifying price competition, an exponential increase in distribution. BBC Radio yesterday carried an item examining what was described as the demise of the East Asian miracle as the Tigers fight ever more viciously among themselves for business. Global competition has become one of those impenetrable clichés used by politicians and economists, but not even those paid to analyse such things have woken up to its sweep and significance. Financial markets are still pitching bond yields far higher than they probably ought because they are

stuck in an old mind-set. Central bankers continue to be obsessed with the demand side. In Britain, the assumption is that if consumers are flooding the shops again, so inflation will follow. The economic facts — for example, that 19 out of 27 industrialised countries under the umbrella of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development have inflation under 3 per cent — are ignored because of fear based on past experience.

It is not just price competition in goods markets that is now so entrenched. There is intense monetary competition, too. By crying wolf about inflation, the bond markets underestimate the total dominance of the economic orthodoxy espoused by the OECD and the International Monetary Fund among others.

We have all been taught that it is wrong to grow through debasing one's currency. Emerging economies are floating their currencies and fighting to hold them at a strong level because they have been told that a weak currency is the clearest symbol of basket case status. A developing country cannot afford to think otherwise. Without the IMF's seal of approval, the economy gets no soft loans, no credit rating from Standard & Poor's and Moody's, no foreign capital to help it grow.

It is hard to imagine rampant inflation when everyone is pursuing the goal of firm currencies. It is also hard to see how the world can fulfil its growth potential. The monetarist orthodoxy has always argued that low inflation in and of itself would unleash the dynamism of the world economy, but the evidence suggests the opposite. Average growth in the industrialised world has been 2 per cent in the Nineties compared with more than 3 per cent in the Eighties and more than 4 per cent in the Seventies. Surely that would be worthy of discussion in Wyoming this weekend?

BUSINESS LETTERS

**Damage from windfarms**

**From Mr Michael Hird**

Sir, The executive director of the British Wind Energy Association (Letters, August 23) is concerned that wind energy is losing its privileged position as a perceived environmental benefit. Indeed, more and more schemes are being rejected in the UK and the energy industry itself seems to be losing interest. In the USA, windfarm development has gone into reverse and the Worldwatch Institute in Washington has observed that the industry there has virtually collapsed.

The reason is that people are realising that windfarms create more environmental damage than they save. This was laid out clearly in an excellent article by Simon Jenkins (May 4). Briefly, windfarms are inefficient, they damage wildlife, create unacceptable noise in otherwise quiet places and require huge groundworks in the form of deep concrete bases and roadways. They also create visual pollution, which damages tourism of the kind these remote areas badly need. Yours sincerely,

**MICHAEL HIRD,  
4 Copperfields,  
Beaconsfield,  
Buckinghamshire.**

**Market will do more for electricity prices than MMC**

**From Mr David Porter**

Sir, The regional electricity consumers' committee want the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) to break up the UK's two biggest generating companies, National Power and PowerGen ("Consumers want power breakup", The Times, August 21).

At the request of the regulator, those two companies have reduced their market share by selling several power stations to a competitor. The alterna-

tive offered to them by the regulator was a reference to the MMC.

Last year, when they each wanted to buy a distribution business, they nevertheless found themselves referred to the MMC. The MMC reported in their favour. Now, despite a marked growth in competition, the consumers' committee want another reference to the MMC.

When all customers are free to choose their electricity sup-

plier, even more competitive pressure will work its way through to producers' prices. This should happen in 1996 or soon afterwards and it makes more sense than dragging two successful generating companies through yet another MMC inquiry.

Yours faithfully,  
**DAVID PORTER**  
Chief Executive,  
Association of Electricity  
Producers, 1st Floor,  
41 Whitehall, SW1.

**Market for milk**

**From Mr Brian Walsh**

Sir, So milk prices are to fall when demand is low. Conversely, milk prices will rise when demand is high.

If the industry is interested, the way to increase the demand is to increase the quality. We are fortunate in that we can purchase locally produced and packaged milk that is fresh and wholesome.

Others, both locally and elsewhere, seem to be satisfied, more or less, with the disgusting white liquid masquerading as milk. Yours faithfully,  
**BRIAN WALSH,**  
Church Farm,  
Garton-on-the-Wolds,  
Yorkshire.

**End to a tiresome 'boring' story**

**From the Director-General and Secretary, The Institution of Civil Engineers**

Sir, Now that it's officially accepted that civil engineers are no longer "Boring" (City Diary, August 22) may I just round off the tiresome but humorous story with the real definition of civil engineers.

**Brilliant  
Original  
Resourceful  
Intelligent  
Numerate and  
GREAT**

Civil engineers are responsible for the muscle and sinews that hold society together. I challenge anyone to use the term boring again. Yours faithfully,  
**ROGER DOBSON,**  
Director-General and  
Secretary,  
The Institution of Civil  
Engineers,  
One Great George Street,  
Westminster, SW1.

Because of the delays resulting from the postal strikes it would be useful, where possible, if business letters intended for publication could be faxed to 0171-782 5112.

over 100 per cent more expensive! I can only conclude that this is because the major airlines have successfully cornered the majority of slots available and, in doing so, exclude more entrepreneurs from entering the business.

I believe Richard Branson is right in opposing the merger of BA and American Airlines as this is a way of reducing competition to maintain the status quo.

Suble price fixing in the UK and, for that matter, in the rest of Europe is the norm. It is time that we followed our American friends and indulged in some free competition.

Others, both locally and elsewhere, seem to be satisfied, more or less, with the disgusting white liquid masquerading as milk.

Yours faithfully,  
**J.S. FENWICK,**

New Cottage, Babylon Lane,

Lower Kingswood, Surrey.

# An uphill fight to bring back the good times at WH Smith

**Sarah Cunningham looks at moves to revive the fortunes of a household name**

**W**H Smith has been around so long that customers have tended to take for granted its presence on the high street, at train stations and at airports. What is worse, the group has been guilty of taking its customers for granted.

The job of Bill Cockburn, chief executive since January, is to see that both sides' attitudes are changed. It is an uphill task and he admits that it is likely to take four years before the core WH Smith retail operations are fully recovered.

So far, the work he has done on restructuring the group has pushed it into the biggest deficit in its 204-year history, the company confirmed yesterday, with a full-year, pre-tax loss of £195 million after exceptionalities.

As if to confirm the break with the old-style WH Smith, last month Philip Smith stepped down as a non-executive director of the group, leaving it without a family board member for the first time.

Philip Smith, a nephew of David Smith, who led the group at the time of its 1964 flotation, was a non-executive director for nine years.

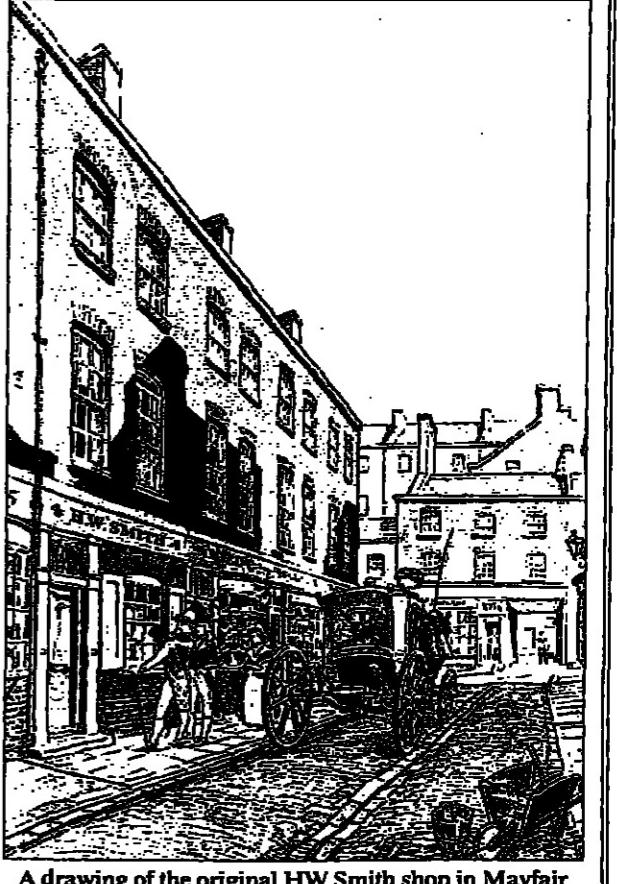
He is a descendant of Henry Walton Smith, who, with his wife Anna, set up the original newspaper shop — HW Smith — in Mayfair, near Grosvenor Square, in 1792. The company's initials were later changed to those of William Henry, one of HW's sons.

**I**t was William who built up the newspaper distribution side. Then, in 1860, the group diversified into running lending libraries on station platforms and by the turn of the 19th century had built up a network of some 1,200 bookstalls. It had become recognisable as the WH Smith of today.

In June, WH Smith paid Boots £63.5 million to take on its 50 per cent share in Do It All, the loss-making DIY chain. It also sold Paperchase to a management buyout team. Other disposals include the sale of WH Smith's business supplies group to Gubert, the French office supplies company, in April, and, earlier this month, it sold Heathcote Books, the book wholesaling subsidiary, to John Menzies.

In January, Mr Cockburn was highly critical of WH Smith. There was "a culture of excuses, a culture of complacency and a culture of explaining why we haven't done what we said we would do", he said.

He now says that "the scene is set for a major improvement. We've cleared the decks." If he turns out to be wrong, he has not left himself much room for making excuses.



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## Equities squeezed higher

**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High '96	Low Company	Price	%	Yield	P/E	High '96	Low Company	Price	%	Yield	P/E	High '96	Low Company	Price	%	Yield	P/E	
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>																		
147 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	148 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	149 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	150 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	151 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	152 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	153 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	154 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	155 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	156 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	157 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	158 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	159 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	160 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	161 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	162 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	163 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	164 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2	165 Allard Distress 45.00 11.00 2.3 17.2
<b>BANKS</b>																		
166 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	167 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	168 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	169 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	170 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	171 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	172 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	173 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	174 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	175 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	176 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	177 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	178 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	179 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	180 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	181 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	182 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	183 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	184 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6
185 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	186 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	187 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	188 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	189 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	190 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	191 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	192 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	193 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	194 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	195 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	196 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	197 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	198 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	199 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	200 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	201 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	202 A.G. Edwards 35.00 10.00 1.1 11.6	
<b>BREWERIES, PUBS &amp; RESTAURANTS</b>																		
203 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	204 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	205 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	206 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	207 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	208 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	209 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	210 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	211 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	212 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	213 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	214 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	215 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	216 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	217 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	218 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	219 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	220 A.C. Bell 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	
<b>DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS</b>																		
221 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	222 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	223 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	224 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	225 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	226 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	227 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	228 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	229 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	230 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	231 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	232 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	233 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	234 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	235 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	236 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	237 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	238 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	239 A.D. Bechtel 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6
<b>ENGINEERING, VEHICLES</b>																		
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<b>FOOD MANUFACTURERS</b>																		
258 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	259 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	260 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	261 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	262 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	263 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	264 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	265 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	266 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	267 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	268 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	269 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	270 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	271 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	272 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	273 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	274 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	275 A.F. Fairley 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	
<b>ELECTRICITY</b>																		
276 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	277 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	278 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	279 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	280 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	281 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	282 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	283 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	284 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	285 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	286 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	287 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	288 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	289 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	290 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	291 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	292 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	293 A.E.G. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	
<b>ELECTRONIC &amp; ELECTRICAL</b>																		
294 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	295 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	296 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	297 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	298 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	299 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	300 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	301 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	302 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	303 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	304 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	305 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	306 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	307 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	308 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	309 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	310 A.E.I. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6		
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>																		
311 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	312 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	313 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	314 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	315 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	316 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	317 A.E.M. 10.00 2.00 1.1 11.6	318 A.E.M.											

## THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Set	Buy	Yd	%	Set	Buy	Yd	%	Set	Buy	Yd	%	Set	Buy	Yd	%	Set	Buy	Yd	%
AB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD	01252 255 763				CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD	0171 255 075			FRAMINGHAM UNIT MGMT LTD	0171 255 065			GARRETT UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD	0171 255 065			GAT & FINS	0171 255 104		
Global Assets	21.00	229.60	+ 1.76	0.14	Cazenove	102.04	100.85	+ 0.16	2.25	Euro Sm Ccs	195.07	196.94	- 0.47	2.05	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05	
Global Equity	265.10	301.20	+ 0.78	0.25	European Portfolio	121.26	122.33	+ 0.14	0.08	Enviro Fund	178.00	178.50	+ 0.51	1.25	Get & Fins	104.10	104.00	- 0.10	0.23	
Global Inv Est	123.10	130.20	+ 1.07	0.57	European Portfolio	124.54	143.31	+ 1.88	1.41	Enviro Fund	172.47	174.47	+ 1.00	1.27	Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.14	
Global Inv Inv	75.00	77.57	+ 1.57	0.21	Japanese Portfolio	64.42	72.29	+ 0.59	1.74	Enviro Fund	172.47	174.47	+ 1.00	1.27	Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.14	
Global Japan	17.00	18.00	+ 1.00	0.45	Japanese Portfolio	64.42	72.29	+ 0.59	1.74	Enviro Fund	172.47	174.47	+ 1.00	1.27	Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.14	
ANX COUNTY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS	01252 255 221			COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			FRAMINGHAM UNIT MGMT LTD	0171 255 065			Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05				
Commer Inv	67.50	714.40	+ 0.76	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			GAT & FINS	104.10	104.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Commer Inv	57.50	607.00	+ 0.60	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
US Commer Inv	40.00	420.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
US Inv Inv	39.20	329.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Higher Inv Inv	90.00	105.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Higher Inv Inv	80.00	95.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105			Get & Fins	101.90	102.00	- 0.10	0.23	Get & Fins	105.90	113.00	- 1.05	1.05		
Global Inv Inv	45.00	48.00	+ 0.20	2.44	COHESIVE FUND	0171 255 105														



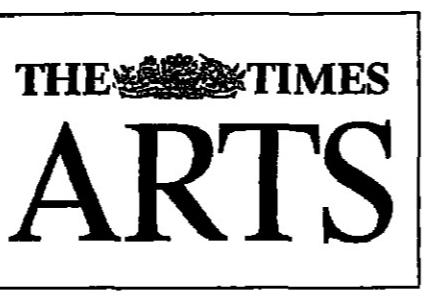
**CHOICE 1**

Pina Bausch stages  
*Gluck's Iphigenie auf Tauris* at the  
Edinburgh Festival

**CHOICE 2**

Also at the festival,  
Dohnányi conducts  
Mahler with the  
Cleveland Orchestra

VENUE: Tonight at the  
Usher Hall

**CHOICE 3**

Wendy Wasserstein's  
Pulitzer winner, *The  
Heidi Chronicles*,  
comes to London

VENUE: Tonight at the  
Greenwich Theatre

**VIDEOS**

A chance to delight  
in the wonderful  
wit of Tony Hancock  
with the release  
of three classic  
BBC episodes

**EDINBURGH**

The day begins with an all-Brahms recital by Andris Schiff, piano; Erich Kunzel and Yuval Sharon, violins; Miklós Perenyi, cello; and Roman Vatkovics, horn. At 7pm, in the King's Theatre (No. 5 Sat), Peter Stein directs Teatro di Roma and Teatro Stabile di Parma in a new production of Chékhov's Uncle Vanya, in Italian with English subtitles. From 8pm through the Royal Theatre (7.30pm to Sat) is a return for Pina Bausch's staging of *Iphigenie auf Tauris*, Gluck's fusion of dance, chorus and solo voice, sung in German.

Meanwhile, Houston Grand Opera presents Virgil Thomson's witty musical *Fair Warning* (7pm, No. 5 Sat). Also in Edinburgh, Gerhard Stein (Edinburgh Playhouse, 7.30pm to Sat; 8pm (Usher Hall); Christoph von Dohnányi conducts the Cleveland Orchestra in one of two concerts on Saturday evening. The second includes a section of Beethoven's Quartet in F minor, followed by Mahler's Fifth Symphony. Festival ticket: £131-225 (5756).

Prague highlights include Rowan Tiley Prater's comic sketch of the Prague Musical Theatre (12.30pm to Sat), and the Five Youth Orchestra performing Shostakovich's Festival Overture. Ribbons by Bridge and Ruckus' *Shake It Up!* (7pm, Usher Hall). In the Money House Studios (5.40pm, Twisted Collision Dance Theatre presents the final performance of *Twisted*, the Delirious Show, a brutal and physical contemporary piece, interwoven with a disturbing

**TODAY'S CHOICE**

A daily guide to arts  
and entertainment  
compiled by Gillian Maxey

monologue, about a serial killer's remaining moments on Death Row. Price: £10. Box office (inquiries 0131-226 5138).

**LONDON**

BBC PROMS 66: Claudio Abbado conducts the Berlin Philharmonic in Mahler's Resurrection Symphony — the composer's monumental vision of apocalypse and rebirth. The orchestra also forces the London Symphony Chorus for the immense finale. Aldeburgh Hall, Aldeburgh Gore, SW7 (0171-688 5210). Tonight, 7.30pm. £7.45pm; mat Sat 8pm. Until October 5.

**LONDON GALLERIES**

Leighton House: Randolph Caldecott (0171-602 3316). Linley Sambourne (0171-602 3316). William Morris (0171-602 1200). Blenheim of London: Whistlers' *Glass: the Art of James Powell & Sons* (London 0171-600 0897). *Museum of the Moving Image*: *Virtual Reality* (0171-602 1715-1730). National Portrait Gallery: *Assuming the Family* (0171-306 0055). *Serpentine*: Richard Wilson: *Jammer Gets* (0171-400 0721). *Site Specific*: *V. A. & the Lighton Frescoes* (0171-938 6500).

**THE ASPERN PAPERS** Michael Rodriquez's slightly old-fashioned version of the Henry James tale of literary skulduggery. With Harrison Ford, Diane Venora, Travolta, Meryl Streep, Mandy Patinkin, Christopher Plummer. WC2 (0171-369 1729). Mon-Fri 8pm; Sat 5pm.

**BODIES** Dominic Lander recreates the role of Menyn in a revival of James Saunders' wife-swapping drama, originally produced here and in the West End in 1977. Dominic Hill (0171-583 0000). Orange Tree, Clarence St, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat 7.45pm; mat Thurs, 2.30pm; Sat, Sun.

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (AMADEUS)** The RSC's (Reduced Shakespeare Company's) popular, pacy rough-handling of the Bard's *Comedies, Histories and Tragedies*. Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, WC2 (0171-359 1737). Wed-Sat 8pm; Mat 7.30pm; Sun 3pm.

**ELVIS** Spotted revival of a 20-year-old tribute show. PJ Proby plays the King in his prime. Special emphasis on the late-night gorging on peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

Prince of Wales, Coventry Street W1 (0171-938 5972). Mon-Thurs 8pm; Fri and Sat, 8pm; Sat 8pm. Until Sept 7.

**FEAR AND LOATHING IN THE JUNGLE** The story of, yes, Gary and the Peacemakers, who had their first No 1 hit one month before the Beatles. Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Fri 8pm; Sat & Sun, 8pm. Mat Wed, 8pm; Sat 8pm. Until Sept 7.

**NEW RELEASES**

• **ERASER** (18) Deceived Arnold Schwarzenegger vehicle, with Vanessa Brown, James Caan, and mayhem galore. Director: Charles Russek. Action, Thriller. Certificate: 18. £17.1-£25.60. Clapham Picture House (0171-656 6148). Clapham Picture House (0171-656 6148). MGM Baker Street (0171-935 9772). Odeon: Kennington (01426 514669). Swiss Cinema (01426 514669). Tivoli: Croydon (0171-370 5520). Trocadero (0171-357 4344). UCI: Whiteleys (01990 882990). Virgin: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636). Haymarket (0171-352 1527).

**ORIGINAL GAMONSTAS** (18) Veteran US actor John Goodman (from *Brown*) comes to the rescue of a gang-raped community. Engaging gem, pace from director Lynn Cohen. Virgin: Treadstone (0171-434 0031).

**THE PERIOD FAMILY** (15) Wayward tale about Cuban immigrants in Miami, with Linda Lavin, David Caruso and Amy Madigan. Director: Mira Nair. Plaza (01990 882990). Rankin (0171-842 0022). Ritzy (0171-737 2121).

**WHERE IS MY FRIEND'S HOUSE?** Simple and moving Iranian film from leading director Abbas Kiarostami,

**CINEMA GUIDE**

Geffrey Bent's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol \*) on release across the country

double-billed with *And I Love You* on ICA (0171-990 3647).

**CURRENT**

• **INDEPENDENCE DAY** (12) Aliens invade America's skies in this cut-throat popcorn fest starring Jet Li, Goldblum, Bill Smith and Bill Pullman.

ABC: Shepperton (0171-651 0000). Certificate: 12. £17.1-£25.60. Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3322). MGM: Brixton (0171-352 5056). Odeon: Kennington (01426 514669). Tivoli: Croydon (0171-352 0031). Trocadero (0171-434 0031).

• **LAST DANCE** (18) Sharon Stone stars as Dean Rebeccah, a professional dancer whose career has stalled. Great special effects, but repetition softens the impact. With Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton. Director: Bruce Beresford. Odeon: Haymarket (01426 515 363). Virgin: Gloucester Avenue (0171-370 2636).

• **MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE** (PG) Flousing set-pieces cheat the stars, even Tom Cruise's special agent, in this energetic revival of the television series.

With Jon Voight and Emmanuel Béart. Director: De Palma. Empire (0990 888 990). Odeon: Kensington (01426 914669). Swiss Cottage (01426 914038). Plaza (01990 888 990). UCI: Whiteleys (01990 882990). Virgin: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636). Trocadero (0171-434 0031).

• **THE ROCK** (18) Belligerent action movie set on Alcatraz, with Sean Connery and Ed Harris. Odeon: Kennington (01426 914669). Mecenate (0171-352 5056). Tivoli: Croydon (0171-434 0031). Virgin: Gloucester Avenue (0171-370 2636).

• **THE STUPIDS** (PG) Mirthless comedy about Americans' divided family. With Tom Arnold and Jessica Lundy. Director: John Landis. Odeon: Kennington (01426 914669). Swiss Cottage (01426 914088). Plaza (0171-352 0031). Virgin: Gloucester Avenue (0171-370 2636).

• **TRIUMPH** (PG) Mirthless disaster comedy that tanked. Great special effects, but repetition softens the impact. With Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton. Director: Bruce Beresford. Odeon: Haymarket (01426 515 363). Virgin: Gloucester Avenue (0171-370 2636). Fulham Road (0171-370 2636). Trocadero (0171-434 0031).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

New End, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (0171-794 0022). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; Sun, 3pm. Until Sep 8.

• **THE RED BALLOON** Inevitably the affectionate balloon was more convincing in the classic 1956 French film than Anthony Clark's stage version is. Even so, it's a treat. Mon-Fri 7.30pm; Sat & Sun, 3pm. Until Aug 25.

• **THE LIGHTS** Howard Da Silva's drama of a journey through the New York nightmare. Ends with the cast attacking the theatre. Ridiculously, because the intent will be rebuilt after the curtain falls. Mon-Fri 7.30pm; Sat & Sun, 3.30pm. Until Aug 31.

• **LOVE IN A WOOD** London Classic Theatre Co provide the annual Restoration comedy at the venue. Wycherley's first success, *Love's Labour's Lost*, directed and performed in London for 300 years

**THE TIMES ARTS****NEW ON VIDEO****HANCOCK'S HALF HOUR**

BBC, 1995. £19.99

THREE less familiar episodes of the classic series are combined on this latest tape to emerge from the BBC vaults. In *How to Win Money and Influence People*, the Lad Himself expects instant wealth from winning a newspaper competition. In *Air Steward Hancock* his mettle is tested high above the clouds. In *The Alpine Holiday*, which is the earliest surviving Hancock television episode, finds him in lederhosen, primed for a peaceful holiday but forced to share his hotel room with the yodelling champion of East Dulwich (played, not surprisingly, by Kenneth Williams). Wonderful stuff, all of it.

**CYCLO**

Entertainment, 18, 1995

TRAN ANH HUNG's first film, *The Secret of Green Papaya*, was poised and immaculate. His second is all ostentatious hustle and bustle. The story concerns a bicycle rickshaw driver delving into crime in the clogged streets of Ho Chi Minh City. The film's visceral impact is astonishing: many images are incredibly beautiful. But there comes a point when you cannot be dazzled any more, you want a film that has at least the semblance of a human face. Cyclo does not have one. Available to rent.

**THE DEVIL PROBABLY**

Artificial Eye, 15, 1997

IF YOU want a cinematic knees-up, don't go to Robert Bresson. But if you want a cinema of economy, purity and spiritual depth, the French director is your man. This is his penultimate film, a despairing portrait of the modern world as witnessed by a Paris student who ultimately kills his own death. As usual with this director, the cast are amateurs. Bresson's camera catches the sterility of daily life though his painter's eye, and compassionately instills some of the chill off this austere work.

**VINTAGE COMEDY: Three more Tony Hancock tapes have been rescued from the BBC archives and released****CHOICE 3**

Wendy Wasserstein's Pulitzer winner, *The Heidi Chronicles*, comes to London

VENUE: Tonight at the Greenwich Theatre

**VIDEOS**

A chance to delight in the wonderful wit of Tony Hancock with the release of three classic BBC episodes

**East Cheam to Vietnam**

**HEAT** Warner, 18, 1995. £19.99. THEY'RE good," muses Al Pacino's workaholic detective as he observes Robert De Niro's criminals robbing their way around Los Angeles. The film is good too, nearly three hours long but with few wasted minutes. Pacino and De Niro have few scenes together, which is part of the director's strategy: Michael Mann builds tension superbly, cutting between cat and mouse. The visual side is most enticing. Mobile camerawork and lighting suggest a Los Angeles of lonely souls, and several action set-pieces set new standards. Available to rent.

**LES MISÉRABLES** Warner, 12, 1995

SINCE the director is that gaudy eccentric Claude Lelouch, do not expect a straightforward version of Victor Hugo's novel. The familiar plot about

Valjean and Javert comes mixed together with snippets of 20th-century history and the story of a modern Valjean, the man who is given a raw deal by fate. Lelouch supplies lots of flashy effects and Jean-Paul Belmondo, grizzled and ever-smiling, plays Valjean. Mark Two with the kind of force that gives gusto a bad name. Available to rent.

**GEOFF BROWN**

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**RENEE FLEMING**

Mozart Arias

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NO ONE among the outstanding new generation of American sopranos has better command of Mozart than Renée Fleming. She has proved it on stage and on disc with her Fiordiligi on Decca's *Costume* under Solti. Decca will be recording her Donna Anna, also with Solti, during the concert performances of *Don Giovanni* at the Festival Hall later in the year.

On this recital disc there is no duplication. Instead of Donna Anna there is Elvira's *Mi tradi*. Susanna's Act IV aria and its later Vienna alternative from *Figaro* are preferred to the Countess, probably her most famous stage role and one to be heard on the Glyndebourne video.

But the tracks which really catch the ear are from Mozart's early works which demand florid singing and perfect control. Fleming provides both in *L'Amico Fritz* and *Il re pastore* and *Ruhe sanft* from the unfinished *Zaide*.

Clearly urged on by Charles Mackerras and a highly sympathetic St Luke's Orchestra, Fleming goes in for full and dazzling decoration. But beneath the pyrotechnics, marred only by an occasional touch of hardness, there is a determination to give each piece its full individuality.

One can but agree, for not only is Chang's technical prowess formidable, but she also has the artistic sensitivity of a player well beyond her years. That artistry is evident throughout Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations and Saint-Saëns' *A Minor Concerto*, where virtuosity and expressivity go hand in hand. The two fillers, Faure's *Elegie* and Bruch's *Kol Nidre*, are both deeply felt, though Rostropovich's drawn-out tempi for the latter verge on the lugubrious.

Maria Kliegel, on budget

**CHOICE 1**

Oliver Knussen's *Music for Ensemble*

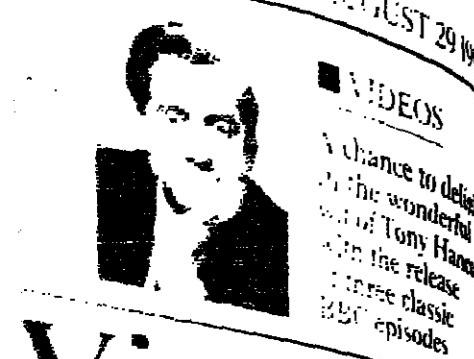
VENUE: Tonight at the Usher Hall

**CHOICE 2**

Michael Head, *Music for Ensemble*

VENUE: Tonight at the Usher Hall





Vietnam

THE TIMES THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996



**■ THEATRE 1**  
Chichester offers a glimpse of lesser Turgenev as Alan Bates takes the lead in *Fortune's Fool*



**■ THEATRE 2**  
... while the Edinburgh Festival is lumbered with an insubstantial drama from Botho Strauss



**■ RADIO**  
Tony Benn calls Nick Ross, and finds himself facing an unexpectedly existential query



**■ TOMORROW**  
How will Patricia Routledge play Beatrix Potter? Read Benedict Nightingale's Chichester report

THEATRE: Alan Bates's mood swings widely and wildly in Chichester; plus London, Edinburgh and Irish reviews

## Good plot, pity about the star

**T**wo years ago Helen Mirren magnificently demonstrated that *A Month in the Country* has as much emotional power and complexity as any play written in the 19th century, in or out of Russia. But what of Turgenev's other dramatic work, and notably *The Parasite*, as *Fortune's Fool* is usually called in English? It was at least as successful in its day, but you are likely to have to journey to the book emporiums of Hay-on-Wye to find a good translation of it and most unlikely to have seen even a bad performance of it on a British stage.

Mike Poulton's adaptation and Gale Edwards's production do enough to

**Fortune's Fool**  
Chichester

prove that the piece is worth rescuing. It has its melodramatic and its sentimental moments, and it is somewhat unevenly performed at Chichester, not least by its leading actor, Alan Bates. Alan Bates alternates between diving boldly into the title-role and cautiously dipping his big toe into it. Even so, the play touches feelings and dramatises dilemmas way beyond the British theatre of 1848 or, for that matter, 1948.

Bates's Kuzovkin is one of those impoverished, vaguely gentle hangers-on who seem to have nested half-noticed in 19th-century Russian mansions. Waffles, amiably strumming his guitar in *Uncle Vanya*, is Chekhov's version. The difference is that Kuzovkin was originally given free board and lodging as "a court jester, a fool — every household needs someone to make fun of". That is the steward's view, but the man himself would probably endorse it. He describes himself as "broken", and knows what an abject figure he cuts.

Except that here he doesn't. Maybe the change of title is significant, for Bates is less a pathetic parasite than a decent man undeservedly on his uppers: "fortune's fool". The years of humiliation have not found their way into his voice or bearing. As a result, his big revelation lacks the disquieting impact it requires.

It is he who is the father of Olga Petrovna, who is returning with her young husband to take command of the great house she left as a girl. Her supposed father was a brute, her

mother was the victim of his violence, and, unknown to everyone, Kuzovkin slid into the marital bed. Bates blurts out this long-hidden secret very forcefully. Plied with booze, taunted by a malicious neighbour, mocked for misfortunes that include being enmeshed in a court case alongside which *Jarndye versus Jarndye* might be a wrangle about parking tickets, he leaps onto the lunch table and dementedly lets rip. You see his distress. You never sense his depth.

That is a pity, because the play proceeds to get intriguing. Will it give

Olga more peace of mind if Kuzovkin confirms he is her father or, as her husband wants, tells her he has been lying?

What is the genuinely paternal way to behave? The confrontation between Kuzovkin and his daughter is packed with lines about "angel mothers" and "devil women" and cries of "don't torture me, don't torture me"; but even with Bates failing to explore all his character's confusions and Rachel Pickup proving less moving than she might be, there is more reality than fustian in the air. Both they and Benedict Bates, in the tricky role of a young spouse who must sometimes be larky and sometimes painfully earnest, clearly needed more and, I suspect, more challenging rehearsal.

But one performance couldn't be bettered. Most actors would play Trofatchov, the neighbour who arrogantly pushes his way into Olga's house and Kuzovkin's psyche, as a supercilious fop with a mean, gossipy streak. Desmond Barrit goes further, building him into a formidable monster who may cackle, slap his thighs and make fatuous quips, but he also has a frightening capacity for cruelty and a real relish in others' pain. Cross Vanbrugh's Lord Foppington with one of Quentin Tarantino's killers, and the result might be a man like this.

Barrit does not just command the stage, he makes you shiver with his awful, sadistic joviality. Whatever the revival's inadequacies, this is top-notch acting.

**BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE**

DONALD COOPER



David Collings and Alan Bates in Turgenev's rarely performed, but still powerful *Fortune's Fool*

## The face is the same, but who is she?

**WE SEE** time, or rather timepiece, before the curtain goes up on Botho Strauss's play at the Royal Lyceum: the kind of pocket watch the White Rabbit consulted is attached to the curtain and keeps real time throughout the performance, although it is an hour fast. Probably there is some reason for this.

When the curtain and the watch go up we see the room (designer, Wolfgang Göbbel), the first of many, alike only in floor area and in the disposition of windows and door, cupboard and wooden pillar. For the first a large paintings hang on the white walls. At the start of the second act shrunken versions of these are propped against the walls, but by the end of the play all have been removed. Sometimes there are books in the huge cupboard, but next time the door swings open cigarette lighters cascade out; then

the shelves are stocked with wine bottles (a good surprise, this) or tapes or bric-a-brac.

This is because the occupants of the room change, although in doing so they do not follow the linear procedures of time, as, for example, in the Dublin play *Buddleia*. A Strauss room is not rented out to a sequence of locals: the same people return but are somehow not the same.

Consider Anita Dobson, who is on stage the greater part of the evening playing Marie Steuber. The dizzy, mini-skirted Marie of the first act, who met the wrong man at the airport, is presumably the same Marie we see after the interval having met the right man, leading us to expect that the play will move into a parallel time. But she can hardly be the vehement

Time and the Room  
Edinburgh

Strauss has the knack of creating vivid characters and Duncan's meticulous direction relates and isolates them in ways that are continually exciting. I kept thinking back to the Giacometti exhibition I saw earlier in the day, where figures are enveloped in palpable space. Marie and the others are often similarly bewildered and oppressed by it.

Dobson is effectively funny and vehement by turns, and poignant when the room's pillar starts talking to her. Other performers are also intriguing, particularly John Rama's watchful, bespectacled Olaf, gloomily letting time pass by. But if it were not for the *Uncle Vanya* due later this week the Festival's official programme would have failed to deliver a single sturdy play.

**JEREMY KINGSTON**

with a slob. Or, if so, how is she also a secretary when the room becomes the busy office of a glossy magazine?

An answer to this puzzle will not be found in the text, despite its lively translation by Jeremy Sams. Strauss is floating ideas about the puzzlement of life, with time and memory playing a part, although it is hard to see how they fit in.

I must be a more solid creature than I supposed, for I ended up so bemused by the play that I could not locate what it might be saying about life outside the theatre.

This is not to say that Martin Duncan's Nottingham Playhouse production fails the enjoyment test.

The second half of the evening is given over to Mich-

**RADIO: Channel-hopping brings its (sometimes bizarre) rewards**

## Gems that cheer up the jams

an, a man of the people who may well believe that any Tony Benn is as worthy of the definite article as himself? A nanosecond passed in which Benn clearly wrestled with this dilemma, before haltingly admitting that the Tony Benn was indeed who he was. He then produced his usual (though erudite) speech about the power of the royal, Acts of Parliament and so forth. Through lateral thinking I was left with the thrilling notion of an Act abolishing the pound sterling signed "Camilla", a splendid reward for two minutes' listening.

The other snatched highlights this week have centred on West Indian

culture, but the Notting Hill Carnival, or programmes related thereto, has not been the best of them. In *The Jungle and The Radio One Rap Show* (both Monday, Radio 1) were full of verve but the calmer waters of early mornings on Radio 4 have provided richer pickings for a wider audience.

Trevor McDonald is reading *Beyond a Boundary* by C.L.R. James each morning this week. Anyone missing this on the grounds that they dislike cricket has made the same mistake as the young journalist who refused my copy of *The Old Man and the Sea* because he didn't like fishing.

James's story of growing up in Trinidad is one of the best reads in the English language, an evocative analysis of caste tensions and social development. The window of James's boyhood home overlooking a cricket pitch becomes a window on the world through which we are invited to observe a society in flux. Press this button at a traffic light and you will not want to move on.

**PETER BARNARD**

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**David Pryce-Jones** on a calamitous experiment in social engineering that left Russia ill-equipped to deal with the future

**C**ommunism rested on systematic violence. There were always a few commentators who carefully described this threat to law-based societies and morality everywhere, but they tended to be dismissed as Cold War freaks. For a variety of reasons, intelligent people often became irrational on the subject of the Soviet Union. Some were deceiving themselves, while others swallowed deliberate deception on the part of Communists.

The academic sub-group known as Sovietologists in particular helped to mislead public opinion. The majority of them analysed the Soviet Union as though it were a society much like their own. Glossing over the central role of violence, they were accepting at face value Communist claims of success. This indulgent portrayal of the Soviet Union was thoroughbly bizarre. As Soviet archives now substantiate, the brute reality was far worse than even the most severe critics supposed.

Orlando Figes is a young Cambridge don, seemingly a natural Sovietologist. In some passages he comes close to justifying Communist violence, or at least saying that there was no alternative to it. The Bolsheviks, he writes in a typically apologetic use of the passive tense, "were forced" to deploy terror to silence critics and subjugate society.

So it is to his great credit that in general he has escaped from irrational attitudes and

A PEOPLE'S TRAGEDY  
The Russian Revolution, 1891-1924  
By Orlando Figes  
Cape, £20  
ISBN 0 224 04622

sees inhuman violence for what it was. Civilisation cracked in Russia. "The primitive zoological instincts of man" were exposed, and "people began to like the smell of blood." He documents appalling atrocities, including the cannibalism which became widespread as normal standards of behaviour were swept aside.

From all sorts of Soviet archives and sources, he has gathered an enormous amount of telling detail. Long as it is, the book is easy to read, free from jargon and very well dramatised by following closely the fates of individuals such as Gorky, Prince Lvov, General Brusilov, a peasant reformer by the name of Semonov, and a couple of commissars. All in all, he has taken the Revolution away from Sovietology and restored it to the realm of history. Here is an important landmark.

In Tsarist Russia, the divide between power and subjects



A new kind of terror: a Kursk peasant is executed for possessing a hunting rifle (1919)

was absolute. In the Ottoman Empire, Persia, China and even British India, modernising at that same moment also meant converting autocracy into a constitutional society. Though difficult, the task was not inherently impossible. Witte, Stolypin and other ministers could not persuade Tsar Nicholas II to reform. Slowly but surely, he created various oppositions out of the very

people whose support was essential: the mass of the peasantry, workers, the national movements, eventually the army. The Tsar undermined himself. Inadequately equipped to rule devoid of political instinct, he found it easier finally to abdicate than to turn himself into a constitutional monarch.

Immemorially the peasants had believed that the land

belonged to them. Genuine land reform might have been enough to stave off revolution. Reflecting at their level the autocracy at the top, they were as anarchic in outlook as they were traditional. Democracy, government by consent, accountability were notions absolutely strange to them. Figes gives many fascinating examples of how people had no real understanding of the new

abstractions about soviets and constitutions and parties which were being thrown around in their name. "Long live Communists! Death to the Bolsheviks!" was one typically confused cry.

Of all the great powers, Russia was least prepared for the First World War. Its social weaknesses were then cruelly exposed. Authority disintegrated. Perhaps revolution was the likeliest outcome but only a combination of far-fetched circumstances brought it about: military disaster, the ineptitude of parliamentarians and socialists, the ruthlessness of Lenin and his colleagues, and Kerensky's fatal decision not to suppress the Bolsheviks. When the Bolsheviks came to finalise their coup, they showed none of Kerensky's liberal-minded restraint.

All accounts of the post-1917 civil war are confusing, and this is no exception. Figes's great narrative gift wobbles a bit. What emerges is that the Whites made the same mistake as the Tsar before them, refusing to launch a political process in which everyone could participate. Terror had to meet terror. Revenge became the order of the day. By the simple expedient of promising them land, the Reds won over the peasants, and this was decisive. They saw them-

selves, as Lenin had promised, "looting the looters". For the victorious Lenin, the pursuit of power was an ultimate end, to be attained for its own sake. In its dogma and dictatorship, he fashioned the Communist Party into a living replication of his own narrow character. For the many national minorities, the Soviet regime was colonialism by another name; for the peasants it was a form of serfdom; and for workers a harsher exploitation than before. By the time of his death, Lenin seems to have realised that his class-driven analysis of society and history led to horror.

**S**talin had only to take over where Lenin had left off. The murderous struggles to come were already in place, in embryo. The simple wish to own their own land had opposed the peasants to the party-state as much as to the previous autocrat, but now millions were to pay with their lives for it. The secret police was the same as ever, but with licence under a General Secretary to be far more cruel than when in the service of a Tsar.

Retarded by its calamitous experiment in social engineering, Russia is today in the

plight that it was a hundred years ago. Only a constitutional society can restore morality and modernise the country for its due place in the world. This too is not inherently impossible. It may take time, but yet all are compromised by love.

The theme is a powerful one. All but one of the characters are sympathetic, described with compassion. Margot Livesey, a Scot who now lives in Massachusetts, comes garlanded with comparisons to Hardy and Rendell from such American luminaries as Jayne Anne Phillips and Richard Ford. The force of one small slip, however, less drastic consequences than we might wish: if you consider the way Jane Smiley's *A Thousand Acres* actually ends with a reconciliation.

**Amanda Craig**

**CRIMINALS**  
By Margot Livesey  
Secker & Warburg, £12.99  
ISBN 0 436 20386 3

ation between her modern Regan and Goneril, you can guess the kind of finale we get here.

Livesey's prose is efficient (except when trying to describe the thoughts of Kenneth, where jarring Americanisms such as "gotten" creep in), and the suspense very much of the superior kind encouraged by creative writing schools. She delivers a poised and engaging combination of plot, particularity, moral revelation and adventure. Yet it does not wholly fulfil.

THIS IS A SCOTTISH writer who, for good and ill, has crossed the Atlantic, and cannot come back. American fiction, though currently displaying a realism, styliness and technical accomplishment which is hugely admirable, has as its downside an upbeat, corn-fed sameness about it that our free-range, often unpalatably eccentric breeds escape.

The palimpsest of culture, satire and formal inventiveness of a British writer are not there in Livesey; her Britain is a minuscule place, flattened, ahistoric. It's Kansas, not Oz. *Criminals* has us as reinterpreted by Raymond Carver with a dash of Alice Hoffman — a novel viewpoint that rings false.

What pleases emotionally is not, unfortunately, what works aesthetically. To end a tale of insider-dealing, kidnapping, blackmail and madness with almost everyone getting away scot-free is a little too upbeat for glutted intellectuals. Our conclusions would be sadder, less commercial, and, quite possibly, less realistic.

John Baile

## Not so happy ever after

A HAPPY ending is so rare in modern literary fiction that its existence should be advertised at once. The British revel in the worst, and sneer at Americans for having their constitutional right to happiness leaking into everything from film-scripts to Pulitzer prize winners.

In *Criminals*, five adults have their lives briefly knitted together by the theft of a baby. The baby's mother, Joan, is a gentle immigrant, yoked to Kenneth, an unpleasant low-life. He leaves the baby on the floor of a men's toilet, where she is found by Ewan, a decent young banker on his way to see his sister.

Formerly married to a novelist, Mollie lives in a remote house called the Mill of Fortune, and is on the verge of a serious breakdown. When she sees the baby Ewan has found, she is determined to keep her. The novel interleaves her desperate deceptions, Joan's frantic search for her child, Kenneth's attempt at blackmail, with somewhat inappropriate extracts from the ex-husband's novel. None but Kenneth are willing criminals, yet all are compromised by love.

The theme is a powerful one. All but one of the characters are sympathetic, described with compassion. Margot Livesey, a Scot who now lives in Massachusetts, comes garlanded with comparisons to Hardy and Rendell from such American luminaries as Jayne Anne Phillips and Richard Ford. The force of one small slip, however, less drastic consequences than we might wish: if you consider the way Jane Smiley's *A Thousand Acres* actually ends with a reconciliation.

How to

# Driving to the edge of extinction

**Richard Dawkins**  
treads the paths of evolution

The byways of a Hamilton paper, written in his uniquely (for a scientific paper) reflective, meditative prose, are a kind of negative padding. To take just one of these narrow roads for example, there is a theory of the origins of sociality in termites which is universally attributed to an American author whom I shall call B. Quite recently I heard Hamilton referring to B's theory and I stopped him. "Bill, that isn't B's theory. You thought of it first. It's clearly

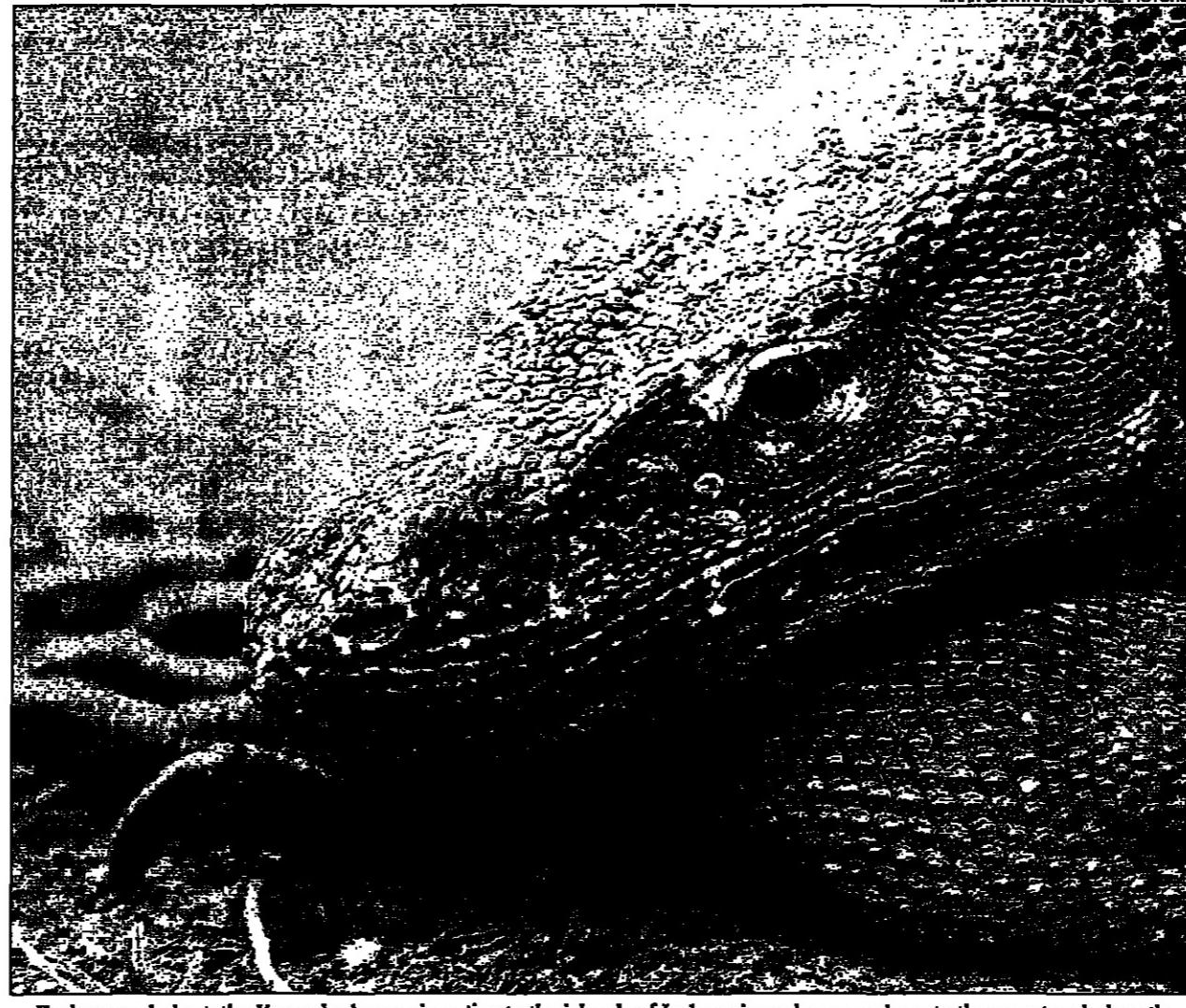
stated in your 1972 paper." He denied it Eeyorishly: only when I thrust his own paragraph under his nose did he gloomily agree.

His modesty is legendary, but the autobiographical passages of this book reveal a stubborn belief in the importance of what he was doing even during the wilderness years when scarcely anybody else saw any merit in the questions he was asking. "I told you so" is not a naturally Hamiltonian phrase, but we can read it between the lines of his account of obscure and frustrating early years in Cambridge and London.

Recognition has now come. Others, in their thousands, are tramping Hamilton's original narrow roads into broad highways of Kuhnian normal science. Still a prophet but no longer without honour. Hamilton is cutting new trails through the Brazilian jungle and through mathematical gene land. Still alone perhaps, but only in the sense of being without peer.

H amilton's papers are not easy, and this is not a book that even professionals will necessarily read from cover to cover. But the autobiographical notes form a narrative that can be read on its own: when we have acquired a taste for Hamilton's uniquely personal style, we shall recognise snippets of it as we flick over the papers themselves which will turn us in to make the worthwhile effort. Who, after all, could resist a paper called *Gambler since Life Began: Barnacles, Aphids, Elms?*

Imagine — as Hamilton has probably written somewhere — a world without islands. Islands are not just small pieces of land surrounded by water. They are small pieces of anything surrounded by what-



Endangered giant: the Komodo dragon is native to the islands of Indonesia and can reach up to three metres in length

ever serves as a barrier to animal or plant dispersal. To a fish, a lake is an island of water surrounded by land. In the world of the yellow bellied marmot, mountaintops can form an archipelago of islands jutting out of the plain. Islands, and the consequences of their existence, are the subject of David Quammen's *The Song of the Dodo*.

A world without islands would be sterile. The *Heaven* of Rupert Brooke's fish ("There shall be no more land, say fish") would not be fly-replete, would be destitute of fish themselves. An undissected waterscape, or landscape, deprives gene pools of the opportunity to diverge and form new species. Your ancestors and snail ancestors were once races of the same precambrian species. But for some vanished barrier between two seas they would be interbreeding still, and evolution could not have progressed. Islands, in the broad sense and on the evolutionary timescale, are the

spawning grounds of new species.

No wonder islands inspired both Charles Darwin and the co-discoverer of his principle Alfred Wallace. No wonder islands provoked one of the

**NARROW ROADS OF GENELAND**  
By W. D. Hamilton  
W. H. Freeman, £40  
ISBN 0 7167 4551 8

**THE SONG OF THE DODO**  
By David Quammen  
Hutchinson, £20  
ISBN 0 09 180196 6

most influential collaborations of modern ecology, between Edward O. Wilson and the late Robert MacArthur. Quammen gripes against Darwin but the others in this list are his heroes, together with a large collection of young, mostly American, field ecologists for whom he cad-

dies across their various archipelagos around the world.

You don't have to be American to enjoy this book, but it might help. Quammen's baseball-hatted cast are forever indulging in that peculiar affection of American field biologists of both sexes, the "real tough" language of the farm boy. A snake expert dons an old gardening glove because "I don't like being bitten".

Never mind, it is all the more touching when one of these scientific tough guys breaks down in tears when one of his favourite islands is laid waste to make a caravan site for Florida sunseekers. Quammen himself gives us a moving elegy for Bedo, boy naturalist of the Madagascan jungles, murdered out of jealousy for his professional success as peerless guide to the world's lemur watchers.

This is, finally, a moving book. It passes from evolution to that other aspect of island faunas, their vulnerability to extinction. Quammen's quest

takes him to the world's islands and archipelagos, not to take a last look at the Komodo dragon or the Mauritius kestrel, but to talk to the experts about why they may go extinct. There is an elaborate theory of island biogeography, of the mathematical equilibrium between colonisation and extinction. There are tough-talking controversies between rival island biogeographers.

Quammen listened patiently to them all. He is a science journalist who does not duck the responsibility to convey the complexities of his subject. The book is longer than I would have advised, but David Quammen is a good writer who has taken the trouble to master an important subject and do it justice.

**Richard Dawkins** is the first Charles Simonyi Professor of the Public Understanding of Science at Oxford University. His latest book is *Climbing Mount Improbable*.

tion between locals and foreigners, he makes the Brits speak their own tongue as if in a bad translation. No wonder Chapman, one of the Anglos who starts arguing with the locals, drives his wife away: he has the fictional character's insufferable habit of telling her things she already knows. As for Blennish, the *soi-disant* "project manager" who slyly destroys the Greens' home, his villainy is pure pantomime.

A s characters, both are worthlessly slight. Aside from making them talk on stilts, Unsorth can signal his disapproval only by blinding them to the splendour of the local frescoes. This is a guess, but their inclusion looks like a private act of vengeance on some neighbourly compatriots whose ghastliness has blighted the author's Umbrian idyll. They're probably never read a book in their lives and certainly won't break the habit with *After Hannibal*. But that's no reason why anyone else should avoid a slowly satisfying excavation of the way personality is altered and en-

## In Clapham's olive groves

Jasper Rees

**AFTER HANNIBAL**  
By Barry Unsworth  
Hamish Hamilton, £16  
ISBN 0 241 13342 4

Corruption is rife, grim memories abound of internecine bloodletting, and over all hangs the perpetual threat of earthquake. If you're thinking of investing in a farmhouse in Italy's green heart, read this novel first — and then buy a bombshelter in Lebanon.

It's not simply on the contoured

logistics of acquiring property that Unsworth seeks to dwell. His Umbrian aristocrats are as emotionally crooked and cracked as the house purchased by his two elderly Americans (whose heartbreaking innocence is semaphored in their surname: Green). This ragbag of thomers all



Unsworth: Umbrian discontent

Oddly, given his nationality, this particular creator is much better at drawing elegant, complicated Italians than caustic, vengeful Englishmen. In trying to make a journalistic dis-

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Not so happy ever after

THE TIMES THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996

**John Bayley** on a vivid evocation of an alternative life for one of our greatest poets: would New England have been his paradise found?

The "ifs" of history can have their frivolous as well as their serious side. At King Charles's restoration in 1660, the former Foreign Office secretary Mr John Milton was in some danger of his life. During the uncertain interim between Cromwell's death and Charles's triumphant return he had manfully produced an optimistic pamphlet entitled *A Ready and Easie Way to Establish a Free Commonwealth*.

He was a well-known fanatic for the "Good Old Cause" of Independents and Free Churches. His friends besought him to go into hiding, while the crafty General Monk, outwitting his own military rivals, set about "obeying" the popular clamour for "a free parliament", "Freedom", of various sorts and with varied ends in view, was very much in the air of that time.

As it happened, Milton need not have worried. Supple and influential men, including his old colleague and fellow-poet, Andrew Marvell, put in a word for him. The new regime wisely decided to take no notice of the old blind Samson and leave him to get on with his yearningly allegorical

## Even old Ocean smiled upon him

MILTON IN AMERICA  
By Peter Ackroyd  
Sinclair-Stevenson, £15.99  
ISBN 0 85619 694 9

play and epic. But suppose he had determined, as many like-minded men and women of the time were doing, to take ship for the colonies, for New England, and a new world? How would he have fared out there, and what would he have done?

This is the question that Peter Ackroyd addresses in an altogether splendid and visionary conjuration of Puritan New England, with Milton taking a hand in its politics and religion. More concise and sardonic than *Hawkins* and *Chatterton*, Ackroyd's previous novels in the same original vein, and even more mysteriously brilliant, *Milton in America* fills the reader's mind with images of extraordinary vividness: of the

New World and its effect on men's eyes and ears; of the authority of the dedicated and high-minded artist; of poetry and politics and belief and their ambiguous relationship.

The story is told mostly by the poet himself, assisted by his foil, Disciple, and in some degree Sancho Panza, the boy Don Quixote. With its echoes of *Paradise Lost* and the prose writings, the voice of Milton himself is astonishingly and successfully ventriloquial. But the tale begins with a more impersonal narration of the travellers' first landfall, a masterpiece of poetic and factual realisation.

The barque *Gabriel* is in light airs off Cape Ann, with the blind poet grown so sensitive during the long sea voyage to any prospective change of wind or course that even the captain — a godly man — defers to him. "He had, in his blindness, visualised the entire map of this region so that it had assumed full shape and volume in



Milton escapes from history

his mind; he could touch each bay or coast, and New England lay before him like a sleeper ready to awake."

Although so close, however, a sailing vessel's helplessness before vagaries of weather is well illus-

trated by abrupt misfortune, as abrupt as that which befell the poet's Satan as he voyaged towards Eden from the summit of Hell. They are blown past the mouth of what would become Boston harbour, and wrecked on the rocky shores. They all survive, however, and are presently welcomed by the pious inhabitants, such as Preserved Cotton and Seathorn Jervis, who "was born on the ocean crossing of the ocean, issuing anew through the navel of Christ". A mite confused by these local peculiarities, Milton addresses the pious fellow as "Mr Seaborn" and is gently corrected: speech and custom are rendered by Ackroyd in a manner that is totally convincing, and at the same time exquisitely funny.

Already well-known among the elect as he is, Milton's natural authority imposes itself on the local population, who before long are cheating the Indians to buy land for a fresh settlement, unani-

their enemies, though worsted, will always return.

The fantasy is amazingly powerful, as if *Paradise Lost* really had been enacted in the New World. One may doubt of course whether a thoroughgoing humanist like Milton, steeped in secular culture, would really have felt at home in the pious atmosphere of 17th-century New England.

But he would certainly have made his mark there, for good or ill, and in one way or another. Devoted to language and to poetry as he is, Ackroyd worships its glories on both sides of the political divide, but there are hints that he would himself have been happier if the sons of Belial had played a larger and more genial part in founding New England's culture.

Would Milton himself have been the first American poet? There is no reason why not: though the author has a quiet joke by mentioning his meeting with a young American who has already written an epic poem about the new continent, which he intends to call *Paradise Regained*.

## Hail to the Prince of a new Europe

Peter Stothard on Machiavelli's *Livy* and its message for today

Early in the 16th century Machiavelli made some firm points about a European Union. The maximum number of member states was "12 or 14", he wrote. As the union expanded, it would inevitably become less aggressive. But it would also become sluggish, slow to make decisions and prey to external influence: it might even "serve in the military for others and take pay from this or that prince".

We can only speculate about what modern Europe's first political scientist would think of the continent today. He would certainly be pleased that Italy itself was united: one of Machiavelli's most frequent complaints was the fragmentation of the land that had once launched the Roman Empire. He would be amazed at the trust that individual EU members place in German honesty and restraint: neither word belonged to his lexicon of great nations. He would be equally astonished at the brutal successes of wars in the name of morality and Christian ideals. The preparedness of American princes to spend money on European influence would be well understood: but surely such men and such a country would still believe in the ennobling creed of Christianity?

The reader may well stop here and ask who cares what a long dead and famously amoral Italian might have thought of us. Students of Machiavelli read him now for what he tells them of the Renaissance and not what he tells them about the EU or themselves. Few even read the work under review here and from which the opening quotation comes. They stuck to *The Prince*, the tyrant's charter which, by giving only a partial account of its author's thought, has made Machiavelli a longtime adjective of "Capability" Brown.

Like Palladio or Robert Adam, Cameron realised that modern architecture could never achieve greatness simply by imitating Classical motifs: instead, it had to recapture the spirit of antiquity, which often meant bending the rules in order to transcend them. Whether planning an aviary or a staircase, Cameron brought flair and a meticulous knowledge of design to his task, and the results were rarely less than remarkable. His sensitivity to site made his

twin good and bad governance, he made it possible to believe in much more radical, irreversible changes. After Machiavelli the pendulum never fell back.

Countless writers have been fascinated by Machiavelli's own swings between republican and princely virtue, between Christian and pagan vice. Hegel and Rousseau were typical in concentrating on the thoughts of Machiavelli that were closest to their own. In the 1950s Isaiah Berlin turned the very inconsistency into a virtue, invoking Machiavelli as a prophet of tolerance, as a proof that no one view of good government should ever prevail.

Does a new translation of the *Discourses* suggest that there is more to be thought and said? Mansfield and Tarcow are both American academics. Their translation is careful and idiomatic, less Anglo-Saxon than Leslie Walker's almost 50-year-old version which introduced this reviewer to the text. Their introduction may alarm some sensitive purchasers by promising "to mark the four-star attractions that tourists will want to visit repeatedly". Tourists should not, however, be discouraged.

Livy and Machiavelli, both separately and together, are suitable tracts for our times. Livy's work was written while Rome was passing from Republic to Empire, an age like our own when peace had produced stability and prosperity along with doubt, antiquarianism and some carefully directed nostalgia. Its 142 books were quickly lost (only the richest and most learned could fit Livy in their libraries) and needed an early renaissance at another transitional time in Europe: the end of the 4th century when Christian authority was crushing the last Romans whom Livy might have recognised as his own. Machiavelli began his own work on Livy at a still more pivotal point in European thought, when the political authority of Pope and Emperor, joint inheritors of Livy's Rome, was collapsing before his eyes.

All over Europe today people are looking back into their pasts for lost certainties. Those who want to understand the nationalist spirit of Livy should heed too the spirit of Machiavelli's *Livy*, its intelligence, its courage, its inconsistencies and the author's humbling half-comprehension of where his ideas lead.

The author is Editor of The Times

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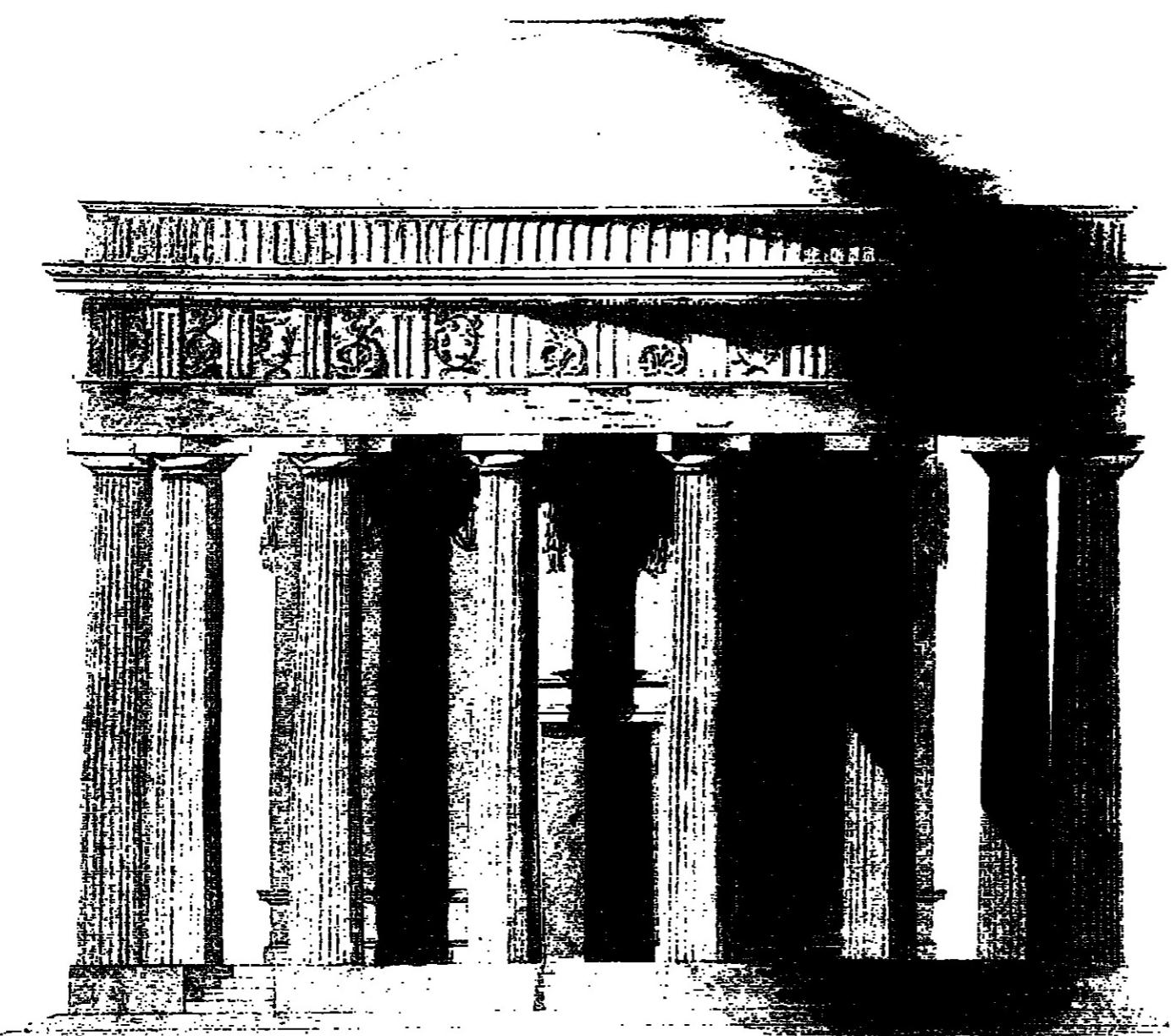
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Capturing the spirit of antiquity: a design for the Temple of Friendship by Charles Cameron (1779) which was built on the peninsula at Pavlovsk the following year

## How to enchant an empress

**S**uperficially, Charles Cameron (1740-1811) enjoyed a glittering architectural career. The son of a carpenter, he used his skills in drawing as an escape route from the humble world of a London craftsman; the obligatory period in Italy led to a book on the Roman baths, followed by a call to serve the Russian Empress, Catherine the Great.

Although Cameron had never built anything before his arrival in St Petersburg in 1780, he soon embarked upon a succession of buildings and landscapes that transformed the role of house and park in Russia. In particular, his interiors displayed such a combination of erudition and enchantment as to place Cameron among the most imaginative architects of the Neo-Classical period.

There was, however, a downside to all this. Cameron was secretive and enigmatic, even appropriating an aristocratic pedigree in his quest

for preferment. His extravagance and overbearing nature won him enemies at court and provoked endless investigations into his building accounts. He spent the latter part of Catherine's reign in limbo and managed alienate her son, the Grand Duke Paul, as well.

Finally rehabilitated in the reign of Alexander I, he lost interest in his great projects, accomplishing little before his death. Evidently, Cameron's life was strewn with obstacles, many of which were the result of an obstinate personality; yet his early years in Russia witnessed a remarkable outpouring of architectural genius, works which his rival Quarenghi justly pronounced "as splendid as they are original".

Dimitri Shvidkovsky's *The Empress and the Architect* chronicles the extraordinary career of Charles Cameron in Russia, focusing upon his two greatest achievements, the additions to Catherine's retreat,

vaults and domes reflected his study of the Roman baths as interpreted by Palladio and Clerisseau.

The Grand Duke's estate at Pavlovsk offered an even greater opportunity to design a Palladian villa embedded in a picturesque landscape, and Cameron moulded house and grounds together so brilliantly that the latter were mistakenly believed to be the work of "Capability" Brown.

Like Palladio or Robert Adam, Cameron realised that modern architecture could never achieve greatness simply by imitating Classical motifs: instead, it had to recapture the spirit of antiquity, which often meant bending the rules in order to transcend them. Whether planning an aviary or a staircase, Cameron brought flair and a meticulous knowledge of design to his task, and the results were rarely less than remarkable. His sensitivity to site made his

garden architecture intensely poetic, as 19th-century views of Pavlovsk attest.

Shvidkovsky is well placed to assess Cameron's work, for he knows the buildings intimately and seems equally at home with Russian and English Neo-Classicism. His illustrations vividly evoke Cameron's works and their original context, making this one of the most beautiful books on architecture to appear in recent years.

**T**he Empress of his title may not dominate the pages of Shvidkovsky's book, but the force of her personality comes through in anecdotes and the begging letters sent by her thirty-something son, who was chronically short of funds for Pavlovsk. "One must suppose," Catherine replied to one of them, "that you are being constantly robbed and are therefore in need although you lack nothing."

that's the way they still train surgeons — to leave their humanity pickled somewhere in the medics' dissection room?

The story descends to the level of black farce when Sandra Gilbert is then offered a glass of water and handed a folder labelled "Bereavement Package" by a woman wearing a badge identifying her as from the "Office of Decedent Services".

Every year more than one in a hundred Americans admitted to hospital will suffer from the terrible effects of medical malpractice. Through her complex analysis of legal and medical questions, Sandra Gilbert demonstrates convincingly how vulnerable we all are to the power of the medical establishment.

But *Wrongful Death* is more than that: it is a gripping whodunit, a passionate polemic, a beautifully written narrative which employs time shifts worthy of any modern novel and a profound account of grief. Both tough and tender, it epitomises Elizabeth Barrett Browning's lines: "Weep and write / A curse from the depths of womanhood / Is very salt and bitter, and good."

## Scathing poetry of the mourning thing

Bruce Boucher

THE EMPRESS AND THE ARCHITECT

British Architecture and Gardens at the Court of Catherine the Great  
By Dimitri Shvidkovsky  
Yale University Press, £20.95  
ISBN 0 300 06567 7

TSURSKOYE SELO, AND THE ESTATE OF HER MAJESTY CATHERINE THE GREAT

By Dimitri Shvidkovsky  
Yale University Press, £20.95  
ISBN 0 300 06567 7

WRONGFUL DEATH

By Sandra M. Gilbert

Norton, £16.99  
ISBN 0 393 02527 1

MENT, she has done what her friend Toni Morrison called "the mourning thing". She has stayed those whose apparent carelessness caused her husband to die. Thus she speaks for all those other silent victims of the doctors' old boys network, nor to mention those caught in the labyrinthine complexities of the law — which may have the "knowledge", but for reasons which seem largely to be political, cannot apply it to the satisfaction of the bereaved family.

In the first chapter, Sandra Gilbert sums up the case she will enlarge on: "... my husband didn't die from a heart attack". On the contrary he died of medical neglect: indeed he might have died because someone in the recovery room failed to get the results of a simple blood test. Failed, in other words, to notice that amidst the efficient

## Bereaved families to sue over Cyprus drownings

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

BRITISH tourists, who lost family or friends in drowning accidents off a notorious stretch of the Cyprus coast, are to sue their travel companies claiming the firms failed to warn them about potential holiday hazards.

Six Britons are among at least a dozen people, including locals, who have drowned in the popular resort of Paphos, in southwest Cyprus, in the past few years.

## Gatwick sheds 'bucket and spade' image

By HARVEY ELLIOTT

HOLIDAY airlines are being squeezed out of Gatwick during the most popular times of the day as the airport loses its "bucket and spade" image.

Charter airlines are also being pressured, sometimes with the help of a cash "sweetener", to switch their flights to Stansted or other regional airports and allow international scheduled airlines to take over the most popular take-off and landing slots.

Gatwick had become known as Britain's main package holiday airport dominated by charter flights, especially during the peak holiday season. And scheduled airlines had struggled to survive at the airport, which was often bypassed by businessmen who headed to Heathrow to find a bigger choice of scheduled flights and to avoid the backpackers and holidaymakers.

But now Gatwick, which will handle 26 million passengers this year, is becoming known as an international "hub" which this year will, for the first time, handle more scheduled services than holiday charter flights.

While the number of charters has fallen by 10 per cent in the past 12 months, the number of scheduled services has risen by 15 per cent.

The demand for more Gatwick services, however, has meant that the airport is now full for much of the day, especially during the morning and evening peaks. As the fight to find a suitable slot intensifies, so scheduled airlines are going to ever-greater lengths to persuade charters to hand them over.

"Slot allocation is supposed to be open and controlled through a committee," said one airline official. "But to

Eighteen months ago three Scottish holidaymakers, David and Moira Haldane and their friend Margot Bryson drowned only minutes after going for a swim near their hotel in Helios Bay, Paphos.

In May this year Frederick Blagg, a retired police superintendent, died in the same bay when he was swept underwater by powerful currents only moments after wading in. And two other British tourists have drowned in the area in the past four months.

Now some of the bereaved want compensation, claiming they were not warned about the sea in that area and the risks posed by swimming. Peter Watson, the solicitor who is acting for John Bryson and the Haldanes' children, Diane and John, is preparing a writ for negligence on their tour operator First Choice, formerly Olympic.

"These holidays are sold as beach-based," he said. "It's not chance that holidaymakers will go in the water, it's the reason they're

there. You should not sell a swimming holiday when the swimming poses risks unless you are prepared to bring those risks to their attention."

Wendy Blagg has also begun legal action against Thomson. She said there was a sign in English warning holidaymakers not to go in the sea if it was rough, but the sea was calm. "There was no mention of the currents in Thomson's brochure, and the rep at the resort didn't say anything. All we needed

to know was that caution was needed even on the calmest days. Holiday companies have a responsibility to point that out."

The British High Commission in Nicosia said fatalities had run into dozens in the area in the past few years and warned tourists to take extra care. But a spokeswoman for the Cyprus Tourist Board said all public beaches in Cyprus had lifeguards and a flag system to warn holidaymakers when the sea was rough, although many non-

municipal beaches were popular with tourists. "Strong currents can be a freak of nature," she said. "However, we are always looking at ways we can improve safety."

First Choice Holiday said it now gave a general warning about the dangers of sea bathing. "When we're aware of known hazards we will also try and bring them to holidaymakers' attention." Thomson said it was looking into criticisms raised to ensure that safety provision was adequate.

## Skiing: the shape of things to come

By GRAHAM DUFFILL

POLICE patrols on the ski slopes to combat uncontrolled speeders, drunks and thefts could become the norm, the 1997 edition of *The Good Skiing Guide* claims today.

Aspen in Colorado was the first to introduce uniformed officers on skis two years ago and the Italian resort of Courmayeur brought them to Europe for the first time last winter. Two officers were on duty at any one time and, although their arrest record was almost non-existent, cases of ski thefts fell from 37 to just one.

The guide also predicts that the changing face of skiing will see adults wearing helmets until now the preserve of racers and children, but first seen in America last season. "Ten years ago the average cyclist would have scoffed at the idea of wearing a helmet but now would not set off without one," its authors, Peter Hardy and Felice Eyston, say.

The Austrian village of Lech sets an example for the future with its policy of limiting the maximum number of skiers on any day to 14,000. "We skied there on the busiest weekend of the year and never had to wait more than five minutes for a lift. It is disappointing that other overcrowded resorts have not seen fit to follow its example."

But in the long run, expense may solve the problem: "Skiing in the main Alpine countries is now so expensive that there is a danger of travel firms and resorts pricing themselves out of the bidding," says the guide.

Prices have inflated dramatically in France, less so in Switzerland, while Austria is marginally cheaper, the guide's authors say.

The twin success stories were Italy and Canada, which both had low prices and excellent snow conditions.

The guide strikes a note of caution for both countries, however. Tour operators renegotiating rates with Canadian hoteliers for this coming winter found them asking up to 30 per cent more, especially in Whistler. "A combination of greed and a slow strengthening of the Canadian dollar threatens the Canadian success story," the guide says.

Italy has enjoyed two seasons of bountiful snow but they should not be regarded as the norm, as several disastrous years in the 1980s showed. Prices there have risen by only 3 to 5 per cent.

The British ski market is in better shape than at any time since the beginning of the 1980s and there is a rejuvenated interest in winter holidays, particularly because of the growth of snowboarding.

## Travel firms cash in on the football boom

By TONY DAWE

AS THE England football team flies to Moldavia at the start of a two-year campaign to qualify for the 1998 World Cup finals, travel firms are cashing in on the fresh enthusiasm for the game.

They are offering an increasing number of packages not only to see the national and club sides play in Europe but to watch top Italian, Spanish and Dutch games. In a unique deal, one firm has even teamed up with a Premiership club to offer business as well as sports travel to the clubs which support the game.

Phoenix Travel, a leading independent company, has set up the Sky Blue Travel agency with Coventry City in the hope of benefiting from sponsors' loyalty to the club, nicknamed the "Sky Blues" because of the colour of their kit.

"The club has 400 corporate sponsors and some of them will spend hundreds of thousands of pounds on business travel," David Clayton, the new company's sales director says.

"We are trying to get that business by pointing out that the companies will be helping the club they support as well as getting a good service."

Sky Blue Travel is already handling the team's travel arrangements and looks after trips abroad by its overseas stars such as Peter Ndlovu of Zimbabwe to play for their countries, and by officials scouting for more foreign talent.

Supporters who go to see away games are looked after by Coventry City's own travel club but if instead of struggling against relegation the team could get into Europe then we would step in to arrange travel for fans as well as players and officials," Clayton adds.

Several travel firms are already offering one and two-day tours to European cities to tie in with the first matches being played in European competitions this season by Manchester United, Newcastle United, Liverpool, Arsenal and Aston Villa.



Sky Blue Travel arranges overseas trips for Coventry City's Zimbabwean star Peter Ndlovu

Firms including Italatour and David Dryer Sports Tours also provide packages for less xenophobic fans to see the best matches in the Italian Serie A league. "The way forward for niche companies like ours is to spread our network to cover more events all over the world," Mr Dryer says.

There is a growing market for trips to the San Siro stadium, Milan, to the Nou Camp to see Barcelona play and to the New Stadium, Amsterdam, to watch Ajax but

there is also interest in other sports."

Mr Dryer's company is about to launch regular four-day packages from New York to take in major basketball and ice hockey matches at Madison Square Garden and is negotiating to become the official tour operator for the new Olympic sport of beach volleyball.

"There is a very big market for the fan who once a year wants to watch football in Italy, a big fan in the United States or tennis in Paris," Mr Dryer adds.

Sports such as cricket and rugby, in addition to football, already have their travelling armies of fans and even after the England team's Test defeat by Pakistan this week companies including Sport Abroad and Mike Burton Sports Travel expect hundreds of fans to take up their packages combining holidays with England's winter Test matches in Zimbabwe and New Zealand.

In Singapore, the ship moors at the Yacht Club instead of the Cruise Centre and a special pier is being built at Phuket for tenders that will be sent ashore when she anchors off Patong beach.

Seven-night cruise-only holidays will start from £945 plus port taxes, the same rate now charged for Kraft's Caribbean and Mediterranean cruises, and from £1,500 to £3,350 for 15 and 16-night cruises.

## Florida is top of the pops

By STEVE KEENAN

FLORIDA is continuing its summer surge in popularity through to the winter, with bookings up by more than 50 per cent on 1995-96. This demand has seen sales rise by 27 per cent, the biggest rise in any mainstream destination and largely due to operators putting on more capacity.

With long-haul holidays in general in great demand, the Caribbean is also doing well with more than double the number of sunseekers booked by the end of July.

Across the board, winter

bookings are up 28 per cent over last year as thousands of Britons, unable to get the summer holiday of their choice, opt for a winter sun holiday instead.

Paul Wedgwood, commercial product manager at Thomas Cook, said: "Some people have felt they were left out of the summer activity where there were fewer holidays available and higher prices than they expected. Some are transferring their holidays to winter."

To the end of July, nearly



Florida: bookings are up by more than 50 per cent

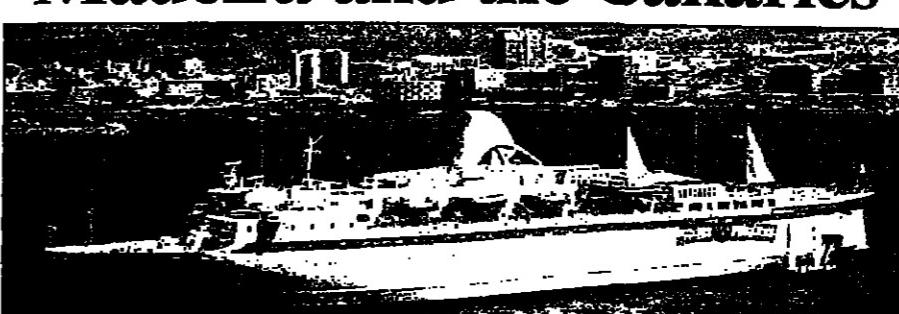
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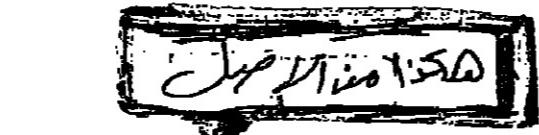
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## RACING

# Resowing the seeds of Cheltenham's future prosperity

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

**CHELTENHAM** racecourse, the home of National Hunt racing, could be totally resown over the next five years if an experiment, now in progress, to replace worn out and poor strains of grass proves a success.

The plan is in response to criticism of the condition of the ground at this year's Cheltenham Festival, which prompted the racecourse to take advice from a turf expert who laid the gallops at Jackdaws Castle, the training base of David Nicholson, and has been involved with the historic gallops at Manton, owned by Robert Sangster.

Mark Gillingham, who runs the Swindon-based Courtyard Partnership, discovered unsatisfactory strains of grass, notably meadow grass, had replaced tougher varieties to such an extent that, ideally, the covering on both of Cheltenham's tracks should be killed and replaced.

However, Gillingham acknowledged that such drastic action was too radical and he agreed with Philip Arkwright, clerk of the course at Cheltenham, to conduct a trial on a strip of ground, 50 metres by eight metres, near the start used for 2½-mile races.

"We felt the substrata grass was not in a suitable state to add anything and it was better to start with a clean sheet. We

have tried it as an experiment and we want to see how it goes," Gillingham said. To reseed the Old and New courses at Prestbury Park would take between three and four years, he estimated.

"Grass gets old and you can try to give it plastic surgery and patch it up but there comes a point when it needs a new skin. There is not a lot we can do when the existing grasses are 80 per cent what you don't want. There were a whole range of grasses, which in certain situations would be

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: *Smokey From Caplaw* (3.20 Musselburgh)  
Next best: *Magic Lake* (3.30 Musselburgh)

fine, but are not ideal for racecourses."

The poor state of the turf at Cheltenham was emphasised by Nicholson on the opening day of the three-day Festival in March. "The ground is a joke with no grass whatsoever," he said.

Arkwright said yesterday: "If this trial strip is successful, of course consideration would be given to doing the courses in phases. It's a hell of an operation, but it is perfectly possible. I would not want to

do it in under four years. You could do it a course at a time."

However, he added: "It is unlikely a decision to do major reseeding would be taken on the evidence of one strip alone after one season. If this trial is successful, then I would want to extend the experiment next summer over a bigger area."

When Gillingham laid the grass gallops at Jackdaws Castle, he knew they would not be used for a couple of seasons. However, he does not enjoy such a luxury at Cheltenham, where racing starts in October. After removing existing grass from the trial area, a seedbed had to be prepared without ploughing up the ground, in order to preserve the resilience of the soil structure over which horses will gallop. Two different blends of grass seed sown eight weeks ago have benefited from the husbandry skills of Cheltenham's ground staff.

A strict regime of irrigating, adding nutrients and mowing has been devised to overcome the disadvantage of sowing grass seed in June, when evaporation levels are particularly high.

The Mackeson Gold Cup, the first big race of the National Hunt season and run at Cheltenham on November 16, is being renamed the Murphy's Gold Cup.

Weaver, who will miss the ride on the Mark Johnston-trained Double Trigger in the Doncaster Cup, said: "I have

# Banned Weaver misses Leger meeting

BY OUR RACING STAFF

**JASON WEAVER** is to miss Doncaster's Pertemps St Leger meeting after yesterday receiving a 21-day suspension from the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee.

Weaver was given a 16-day ban (August 31 to September 18 inclusive) beginning this Saturday, with five days suspended until January 1.

He should commit a further offence in the next four months. He will miss the season's final classic on Saturday September 14.

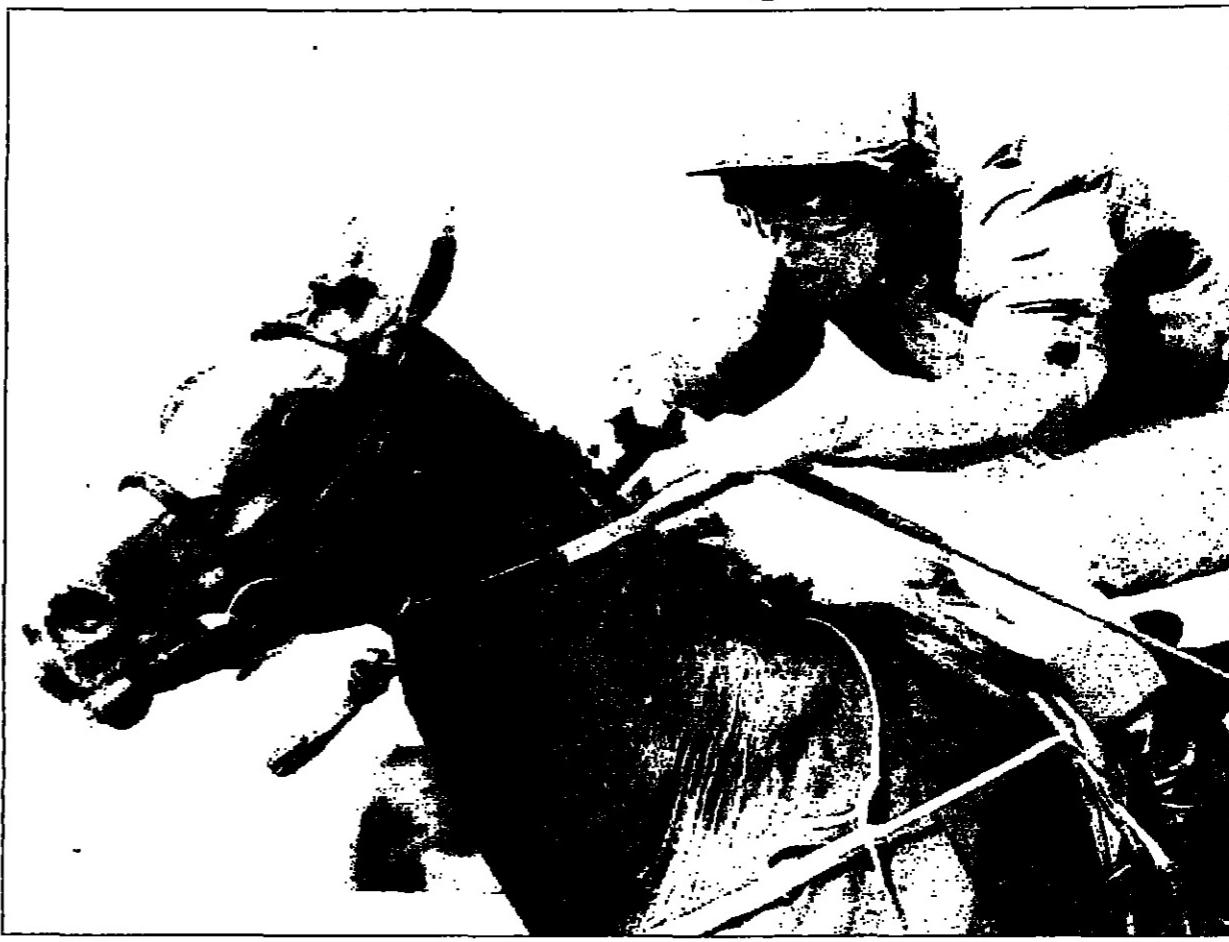
The inquiry was a result of Weaver, having already accumulated 12 or more days

suspension this year, committing a second offence of irresponsible riding.

The jockey was adjudged to have been irresponsible at Pontefract ten days ago on Sonderise in the Family Day Handicap, which triggered the inquiry under the Jockey Club's "totting up" procedure, the rider having already been banned previously this year for seven days for irresponsible riding at Beverley. This season, Weaver has also been suspended twice for four days for careless riding.

Weaver, who will miss the ride on the Mark Johnston-trained Double Trigger in the Doncaster Cup, said: "I have had a fair hearing. Rules are rules. The part of my ban which is suspended for four months is usually deferred for six months but the stewards took into account my previous record as a jockey."

Under the "totting up" procedure, a jockey faces a minimum 14-day suspension for his second offence. Weaver's riding at Pontefract was therefore deemed in



Weaver will have to forgo the ride on Double Trigger in the Doncaster Cup. Photograph: Julian Herbert

itself worthy of a seven-day ban, although he would serve only two days of this suspension if he avoids further offences until January 1. He will be free to resume riding on September 19.

In contrast to Weaver, Richard Hills left the Jockey Club headquarters at Portman Square a happy man after the disciplinary committee overturned a four-

day ban for irresponsible riding on appeal.

Wardara, Hills's mount in the Bungay Fillies' Handicap at Yarmouth last Thursday, was reinstated as the winner. The partnership had been placed last. Hills having been found to have caused interference with Times Of Times, ridden by Ray Cochrane, inside the two-furlong marker.

Hills and Cochrane both gave evidence to the disciplinary committee, who viewed a video recording of the race and decided that any interference had been accidental and reversed the race-course stewards' decision.

Hills said: "I'm delighted. The inquiry went very well. We had a very good case. Any interference was accidental and did not affect the result."

## LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

3.30 Sad Mad Bad  
4.00 That Man Again  
4.30 MR BROWNING (nap)  
5.00 Hawaii Storm

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 5.00 FARMOST. Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Sparkling Edge. 3.00 Go For Salt. 3.30 QUEST FOR BEST (nap).

## GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,F,G,S) (M) D Redmore 8 Hall 9-10... 8 West (4) 88  
Racecard number. Dots in brackets. 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# Footballers must follow a different train of thought

**C**an an Olympic sprinter save English football? It's a thought prompted by the latest signing down at Ruud Gullit's multi-national Chelsea. This time it is not another Italian or Frenchman to strengthen Vialli, Di Matteo, Leboeuf and crew — but a British athlete, Ade Mafe, who joins the squad as "fitness coach".

Mafe, who was a 200 metres finalist at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles in 1984, is convinced, as many have been before him, that the fitness of many of our professional footballers is appalling when compared with the conditioning of track and field athletes. And the ever-growing intake of foreign players into the game is making it ever more evident how our players are failing behind the fitness standards required of international players.

Kevin Keegan, who knows more than most about European methods, tells a great story about the first time that Faustino Asprilla turned up for training at

Newcastle United. He did a tough session of weight-training and running that lasted for almost two hours. At the end of it he asked cheerfully, "What time do you want me back this afternoon?" The question of training twice a day would simply baffle most British players, who have been raised on the tradition that the afternoon is theirs to go along to the pub or the

## The idea of training twice a day would baffle most players'

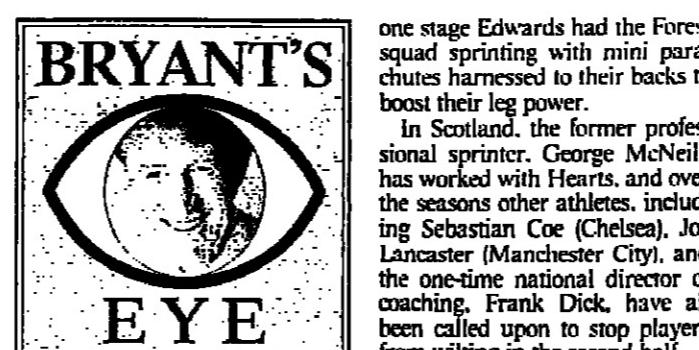
billiard hall, and that a touch of exercise in the morning is quite enough.

The pattern, like so much else in British sport, is a hangover from the past, when most players were little more than part-time professionals. In the Fifties, footballers who were paid a couple of pounds a week used to train till noon and

then take off to be plumbers or electricians in the afternoon. But to someone like Mafe such an approach by today's highly paid professional is madness. And, in the Chelsea supporters' magazine, he spells out some tough warnings to any player stuck in the timewarp of football's past.

"If they go down to the pub in the afternoon, I will not stop them," he said. "But if they are feeling rough the next day, and I am training them, they are going to have to be ready for me." It is clear that Mafe, who spent the best years of his sprinting life working out with the likes of Linford Christie and Carl Lewis, is not going to let the football players get away with fantasy fitness.

Nor should they. Never before has so much been known about the science of sporting excellence and the most effective ways to guarantee superior performance. There is no need, and no excuse these days, to use guesswork and unproven dressing-room lore to draw up physical training programmes. In-



creasingly, football around the world has been turning to sports scientists and to track and field experts to tap into detailed information about physiology, biomechanics, nutrition and psychology. Chelsea are just the latest in the history of teams that have turned to fitness gurus to knock them into shape.

Nottingham Forest have used a former body-builder and marathon runner, Peter Edwards, who spent years in Italy studying how Italian players keep in shape. At

one stage Edwards had the Forest squad sprinting with mini parachutes harnessed to their backs to boost their leg power.

In Scotland, the former professional sprinter, George McNeill, has worked with Hearts, and over the seasons other athletes, including Sebastian Coe (Chelsea), Joe Lancaster (Manchester City), and the one-time national director of coaching, Frank Dick, have all been called upon to stop players from wilting in the second half.

One of the more unlikely sounding fitness gurus was Len Heppell, father-in-law of the former Newcastle and West Ham United footballer, Bryan "Pop" Robson. Heppell, who advised clubs including Manchester City and West Ham, was an expert on table tennis and ballroom dancing. His speciality was to advise players on balance, and he is reckoned to have done wonders for Clyde Best.

Along at Chelsea, Mafe promises to keep a sharp eye on what the players eat and drink. Athletes have taken the advice of the best sports scientists and move into the gym at half-time for light exercises

and stretching, while topping up on carbohydrate-replacing sports drinks.

If Mafe is looking for some stimulating half-time exercise at Stamford Bridge, he might consider a stunt pulled by West Ham in the late 1950s. The great sprint star of the time, E. McDonald Bailey, sometime co-holder of the world 100 metres record and a winner of 14 AAA titles, thought British footballers were hopelessly unfit and taunted West Ham by betting that none of them could match the speed of the fastest woman in the land.

Britain's sprint queen of the time was Dorothy Hyman, a girl who ran for Hackney Main Youth Club. She could run 100 metres in 11.3 sec and, try as she might, none of the West Ham team could get near it.

Of course, Mafe will find that things have moved on a bit in British football since then — but, sadly, not a lot.

JOHN BRYANT

GOLF: SOUTH AFRICAN OPENS UP TWO-SHOT ADVANTAGE ON RAIN-SHORTENED FIRST DAY OF BRITISH MASTERS

## Levenson becomes unlikely leader with opening 66

BY MEL WEBB

WHO said that it is better to travel than to arrive? Try putting that to Gavin Levenson, who went through all manner of tortures to get from Johannesburg to England earlier this week, then shot a 66 in the first round of the One 2 One British Masters at Collingtree Park yesterday to take a two-stroke lead. Of the two, the South African put getting here a poor second to being here.

Levenson, 42, has been a PGA European Tour player since 1979, and has won twice in Europe, but has finished 144th, 122nd and 135th in the Order of Merit in the past three years. This season his record is even worse — he is 172nd with less than £14,000 in the kitty. It is not, on the face of it, the career profile of a man who is likely, or even capable, of leading after the first round of a £700,000 championship.

Four days ago he was not even in the tournament, let alone heading for the lead. He started the week as fifth reserve, then got a telephone call at midday on Monday from Sue Lloyd, the Tour's membership secretary, who told him that he had moved up to third, and how did he feel about coming to England?

Levenson thought about it, and on balance decided he would; when he was informed that he had moved up to first alternate, that settled it. He thought he had plenty of time, he thought the tournament did not start until Thursday. Not so, he was told — the first round was on Wednesday. Panic ensued.

**FIRST ROUND**

GOLF: Britain and Ireland unless stated  
66: G Levenson (SA); 66: C Montgomerie (Aus); J Coopers (AUS); R Russell, R Allenby (Aus); D Gilford, S Cage, M Clayton (Aus); M Rose, E Canonica (Ita); T. Coles (Spa); O Selberg (Swe); J Haugom (Swe); G Ames (Fra); K Eriksson (Swe); R Chapman, M. F. Jones (Eng); S. M. Bates, M. Higginson (Eng); 72: N. Fazal (Ind); M. Jonzon (Swe); C Corcoran (Irl); T. Bjorn (Den); T. Johnson (Gerb); P. Harrington, P. Lihan (Irl); D. Miller, T. H. McDonald, D. Hospital (GB); S. Baker, P. Doherty, P. Turner, G. Turner (NZL); M. Haworth (Aus); B. Paes (SA); P. Teravainen (USA); J. van de Velde (Fra); J. Sorenson (Den); J. T. Stigges (USA); P. McEvoy (Irl); J. E. Derry, D. Evans (Wales); R. Coles, P. Allcock, T. Flinchin (Fra); 75: S. Field, F. Nicolo (MC); T. Hawksworth (J. Eng); S. Williams, G. Clark, C. Suneson (Spa); M. A. Martin (Sp)

dropped out. McNulty, it is fair to say, is now even more firmly cemented in Levenson's affections.

He just had time to phone Mick Jones, his English caddie, and tell him to decamp to Northampton as swiftly as he could and, before Jones's arrival, managed to get in a practice round on Tuesday with the help of several friendly caddies, who carried his bag for three or four holes each.

Montgomerie was his usual massive, impressive self, driving straight and putting solidly. If form and innate class counts for anything, the Scot will still be in contention come Saturday and Levenson will not. Yes, golf is a funny old game — but not that funny, surely.

Levenson ended the curtailed day — play was suspended twice for thunder, lightning and rain before being abandoned at 6.45 with half the field still on the course — two strokes ahead of Colin Montgomerie, who made not a semblance of a mistake in his four-birdie 68.

Montgomerie was his usual massive, impressive self, driving straight and putting solidly. If form and innate class counts for anything, the Scot will still be in contention come Saturday and Levenson will not. Yes, golf is a funny old game — but not that funny, surely.

Fairclough's brief this week is deceptively simple. It is to stay ahead of Morley, who tied for second, behind Sorenstam, at the Trygg Hansa Open near Stockholm last week. Lebouc and Orum. To that extent, her Solheim Cup place is still in her own hands.

That is not the case for Carin Hj Koch, of Sweden, nor

who made her Solheim Cup debut at The Greenbrier two years ago, is hanging on to seventh place but it is still mathematically possible for both her and Johnson to be overtaken by one or other of the three players next on the list: Joanne Morley, Patricia Meunier Lebouc and Karina Orum.

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That is not the case for Carin Hj Koch, of Sweden, nor

for the Scots, Kathryn Marshall and Dale Reid. They must rely on Walker's largesse. Koch, who plays most of her golf in the United States now, missed the cut in Stockholm last week and, like all the peripheral players, is feeling the strain.

Marshall, who relished being the travelling, but non-playing reserve — a position now abolished — at The Greenbrier, desperately wants to be on the team but her form, both in Europe and the US this season, has been indifferent. She shared sixth place at the Trygg Hansa but it might prove too little, too late.

If Johnson needs a wild card, that will leave only one

and Walker thinks an awful lot of Reid. The 37-year-old from Ladybank has finished in the top ten only twice this season, but she has played in all three matches so far, and she loves beating Americans. She might not even need to make the cut this week to be in the side.

All the foregoing assumptions are just that: assumptions. In the end, two people will pick themselves and Walker's gut instinct will decide the rest.

SOLHEIM CUP STANDINGS: 1. M. de Lorain (Fr) 123 90s; 2. D. Davies (GB) 81s; 3. A. Nichols (GB) 81s 33; 4. L. Johnson (GB) 81s 33; 5. C. Hj Koch (Swe) 88s 00; 6. T. Johnson (GB) 58s 07; 7. L. Fairclough (GB) 57s 40; 8. J. Morley (GB) 55s 33; 9. P. Meunier Lebouc (Fra) 45s 30; 10. K. Orum (Den) 42s 00.

BOWLS: WORCESTERSHIRE PAIR SNATCH THRILLING VICTORY AT WORTHING



Walker: five wild cards

THE complications, computations and calculations will all be resolved come Sunday but in the meantime the game of "Pick Your Solheim Cup Team" is still on, with the focus of attention on the inaugural women's Compaq Open, which starts here in the Swedish countryside west of Stockholm today.

The peaceful, rural surroundings are in stark contrast to the churning of the players in contention for a place in Europe's side to play the United States at St Pierre, Cheltenham, next month.

Mickey Walker, the Europe

captain, has five wild cards to use and three of them will go to the Swedish trio of Liselotte Neumann, Helen Alfredsson and Carin Nilmark. They will join Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, Lora Davies, Alison Nicholas, Lisa Hackney and Annika Sorenstam, who are assured of finishing in the top seven on the Solheim Cup points table. Then the fun starts.

Trish Johnson, a stalwart of the previous three matches, is sixth on the table, but she is not here this week and if she is knocked out of the top seven, her experience will ensure her fourth wild card.

At the moment, Lora Fairclough, the Lancastrian

captain, has five wild cards to use and three of them will go to the Swedish trio of Liselotte Neumann, Helen Alfredsson and Carin Nilmark. They will join Marie-Laure de Lorenzi, Lora Davies, Alison Nicholas, Lisa Hackney and Annika Sorenstam, who are assured of finishing in the top seven on the Solheim Cup points table. Then the fun starts.

Trish Johnson, a stalwart of the previous three matches, is sixth on the table, but she is not here this week and if she is knocked out of the top seven, her experience will ensure her fourth wild card.

At the moment, Lora Fairclough, the Lancastrian

and Stephen Farish by 22-5. Gass and Bell, after a classic pressure shot and Stanley, to his great credit, produced it, trailing the jack to cut the Cheltenham count to 16.

Wills and Allcock had the edge in the early stages but Maddox and Stanley tied the scores twice and led 16-10 after 15 ends, before dropping a five on the sixteenth. Two doubles took the Worcestershire pair to 20-16, setting the scene for the tense closing act.

Those hoping for an all-City final were disappointed, both Wigton pairs losing in the semi-finals. Wills and Allcock beat Ron Gass and John Bell, the 1991 champions, 22-15 and Maddox and Stanley eliminated Paul Bar-

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Those hoping for an all

THE TIMES THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996

CRICKET: ENGLAND TOUR PLACES AT STAKE IN ONE-DAY SERIES

# Pakistan aiming to compensate for World Cup debacle

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

**THE** perverse satisfaction that England's cricket followers appear to find in defeat is frequently denied to them when the Texaco Trophy comes around. England fare so well in these mini-series that, with the exception of a whitewash by Australia three summers ago, they have seen off allcomers since 1991.

This sits somewhat incongruously with the despair of a World Cup campaign, six months ago, in which England, displaying a primitive approach to a modernised limited-overs game, lost to every Test-playing nation they met. Their record of 14 wins from the past 19 completed Texaco games is now to receive a stern examination by one of those sides, Pakistan.

Old Trafford stages the first of three games today, on a bare, cracked pitch, and the ground will be filled to capacity. The same applies to Edgbaston, on Saturday, and only a few tickets remain for next Bridge on Sunday.

England have already improved their imposing Texaco record this season in a one-sided series against India. Unacclimatised and rudderless, India lost heavily in Leeds and Manchester and would have suffered the same fate at the Oval but for the intervention of rain.

India, however, had just arrived. Pakistan have been in the country for more than two months and have demonstrated their liking for English conditions by winning the important cricket Test series, by an impressive margin. What is more, they have a particular incentive for maintaining the momentum through what might otherwise be thought a more trivial cabaret.

To appreciate this incentive fully, it is necessary to know that a day-day cricket is thought to be anything but trivial in Pakistan. It is, indeed, literally a matter of life and death, as confirmed by the alarmingly

extreme public reaction to the failure of their team to make a successful defence of the World Cup.

Losing in the quarter-finals was bad enough. Losing to India was unendurable and some grim suicide cases resulted. Wasim Akram was also quite unfairly vilified because some refused to accept that he had missed the fatal game with a genuine injury.

Pakistan captains have fallen for less but Wasim is made of tougher stuff and this tour has been a triumph for his leadership. He will be anxious to complete it with reassuring evidence, for those back home, that Pakistan can still win at the form of the game they love,

## PARTIES

ENGLAND (from M A Atherton (Lancashire), Captain; N V Knight (Worcestershire), Vice-Captain; M P Maynard (Glamorgan); G D Lloyd (Lancashire), Assistant Captain; D E Statham (Surrey), D B Croft (Glamorgan); D Gough (Yorkshire), D W Headley (Lancashire), D A Mullally (Lancashire))

Pakistan (from Wasim Akram (captain), Asim Soomro (Sindh), Azhar Ali (Punjab), Inzamam-ul-Haq (Baluchistan), Saeed Anwar (Kashmir), Mohammad Yousuf (Kashmir), Waqar Younis, Sajid Masrahi, Asif Iqbal (Kashmir), G Shoaib (Eng) and N T Plowman (Eng); Third Umpire: J W Holder (West Indies))

though in truth he will have mixed feelings about it.

"We should play more Test cricket," he said. "In Pakistan, the one-days are killing Tests." Wasim is correct in his warning, as crowd figures emphasise, but doubtless he is also aware that the three bowlers at the heart of Pakistan's success are better suited to Test cricket.

Waqar Younis and Wasim himself are aggressive fast bowlers, who take wickets without worrying overmuch about the cost. They will win many a five-day game but, in limited-overs cricket, where bowlers need only be niggardly and nega-

tive, they can be an expensive luxury. To some degree, the same is true of their wonderful leg spinner, Mushtaq Ahmed.

Against this, Pakistan have a batting line-up ideally suited to the one-day tempo, with an opening pair, in Sohail and Anwar, who like nothing better than to hit the ball over the potted infield during the initial 15 overs. The omission of Alastair Brown, despite a century in his last international, means that England have no one accomplished in this role and their opening pair will be Michael Atherton and Nick Knight, with Alec Stewart at No. 3.

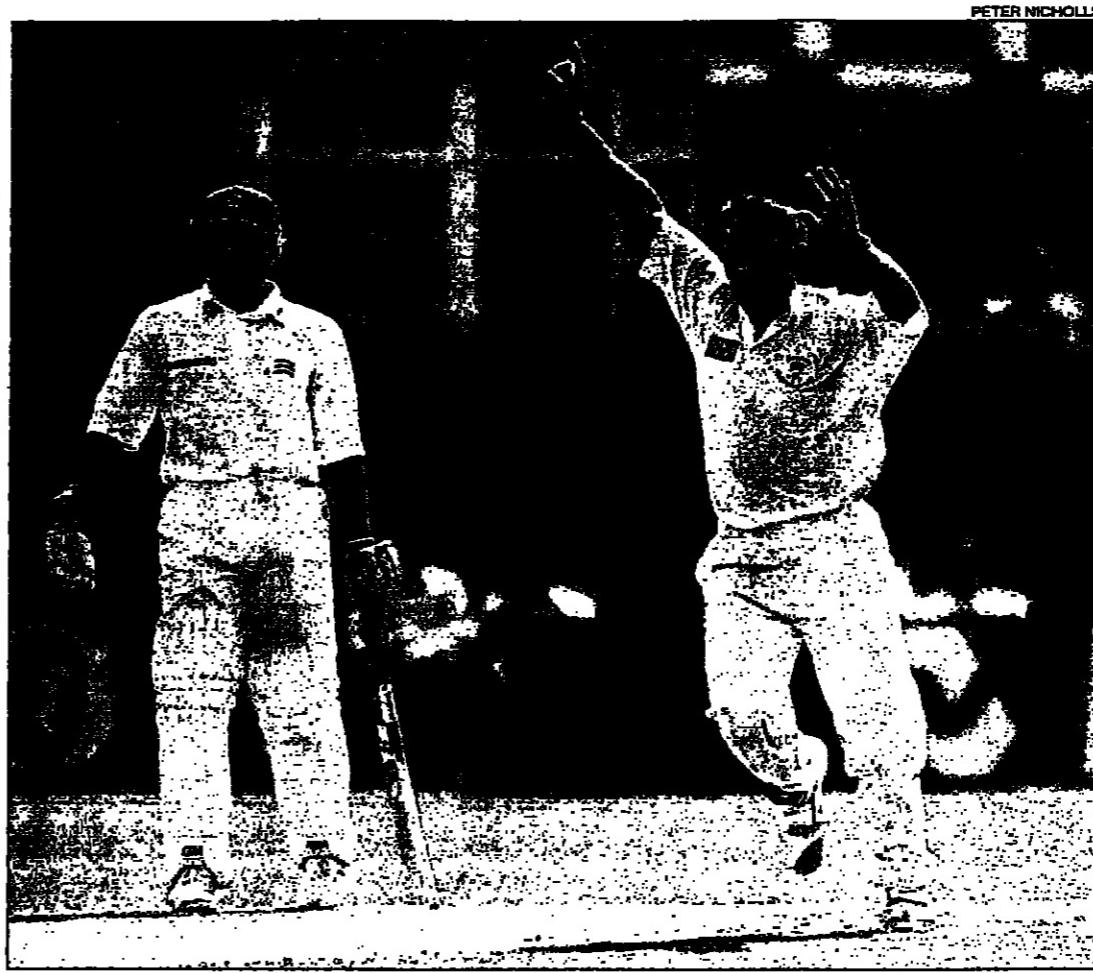
Pakistan are also favoured by a settled team. Nine of the side that beat England in Karachi in March are likely to play today but, of England's XI that day, only Atherton, Graham Thorpe, Darren Gough and Peter Martin are even included in the squad — a remarkable casualty ratio, even allowing for the interim change of coach and selectors. The most startling omissions are Graeme Hick and Dominic Cork who, for very different reasons, are now unlikely to be accompanying England to Zimbabwe three months from now.

New faces always stimulate interest, however, and England could include up to five newcomers. Of these, Graham Lloyd will attract particular support on his home ground but there is probably more to gain for Adam Hollioake and Dean Headley, both genuine candidates for winter tour places.

Headley, granted his opportunity only through the misdemeanours of Chris Lewis, was also a late inclusion, last winter, in the England A tour to Pakistan, on which he was the most effective bowler. Injuries have hampered him this summer but, if ever there was an opportune moment for a new English bowling talent to emerge, this is it.

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Dalton, 31, struck a sparkling 103 off 117 balls on his first appearance



Liam Botham, son of Ian Botham, the former England all-rounder, celebrates one of his five wickets on his first-class debut for Hampshire at Portsmouth yesterday. Report, page 1

## Dalton's efforts unrewarded

By SIMON WILDE

LORD'S (Cheshire won toss); Cheshire beat Bedfordshire by six wickets

ON THIS evidence, the life of England's indoor captain is not dissimilar to that of their outdoor one. Richard Dalton, who will lead the England indoor team on a tour of New Zealand next March at the same time as Michael Atherton is commanding the full side there, did his sterling best to bring Bedfordshire victory in the MCC Trophy yesterday, but it was a heroic individual performance in a losing cause.

Bryson also took a rare wicket, when he dismissed Stanley, having been brought on to complete an over

at Lord's to set Bedfordshire galloping towards a final total of 253 for seven in their 55 overs, sizeable enough to have won 11 of the previous 13 minor county limited-overs finals, but not this one.

Cheshire had little trouble meeting their target and won with something to spare, despite Dalton's tidy spell of medium-pace bowling.

It might have been a different story had not Dalton been dismissed in freakish circumstances, run out by a direct hit from the boundary by Bryson, who later laid the foundations of Cheshire's reply by hitting through the first 39 overs tongue in cheek.

Bryson was well supported in stands of 70 and 112 by Bean, who hit hard for his 43, and Saxby, the former Nottinghamshire and Durham player, who scored 45. They quickly showed that Bedfordshire, Dalton apart, had scored too slowly.

Bryson also took a rare wicket, when he dismissed Stanley, having been brought on to complete an over

begun by Bostock, who damaged a hand taking a return catch from Larkins.

Larkins had been expected to be Bedfordshire's most dangerous player but he scored only 15 out of an opening stand of 70. Dalton, who plays alongside Alan Wells in the indoor team, hit four sixes and believes he has greatly benefited from Larkins's encouragement this season. "He needs to learn to play a few more shots," Dalton said, tongue in cheek.

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**Lewis takes lead role after Surrey reject TCCB plea**

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

**S**HORTLY before play starts at the Oval this morning — assuming that he can reach the ground in time — Chris Lewis will step up as captain of Surrey. Quite what he has done to merit this promotion is not obvious, although it does give a fair reflection of his topsy-turvy season. He began it promising to make amends for his past failings and ends it as a figure of fun.

Surrey did get yesterday not to abide by a request from the Test and County Cricket Board to overlook Lewis for the county championship match against Warwickshire, after his demotion from the England team on grounds of discipline. "We feel that the punishment is harsh but fair," Mike Sooper, the club chairman, said, "and it should not be taken forward to prevent him playing for us."

Instead, Lewis will captain Surrey for the second time in the absence of Alec Stewart and Adam Hollioake, who, along with Graham Thorpe, are representing England. He led them against South Africa. A three weeks ago, when he was instructed to prove his form and fitness before the Headingley Test, and seemingly made little effort to do any such thing.

With four matches left, the championship has not passed Surrey by, though they will do well to win it. They lie fifth, 13 points behind the leaders, Essex, who have won their past six championship matches. Essex, whose rise has been startling, are also involved in an important game, against

## TOP OF TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Bl	Bl	Pts
Essex (S)	13	7	2	4	45	43	212
Kent (R)	14	7	1	6	42	40	212
Bedfordshire (I)	13	7	3	2	40	38	202
Surrey (D)	12	6	1	3	37	49	193
Yorkshire (B)	14	6	5	3	41	46	192
Warwicks (C)	13	6	4	3	32	43	180

(Last season's positions in brackets)

Remaining fixtures:  
ESSEX: Today, v Yorkshire (Headingley). Sept 3: v Warwickshire (Edgbaston). Sept 10: v Derbyshire (Derby). Sept 17: v Glamorgan (Chesterfield).

KENT: Today, v Nottinghamshire (Tunbridge Wells). Sept 12: v Hampshire (Fareham). Sept 19: v Lancashire (Lancaster). DERBYSHIRE: Today, v Warwickshire (Chesterfield). Sept 7: v Somerset (Taunton). 12: v Warwickshire (Derby). 18: v Gloucestershire.

LEICESTERSHIRE: Today, v Essex (Leicester). Sept 3: v Nottinghamshire (Trent Bridge). 12: v Durham (Chester-le-Street). Sept 20: v Warwickshire (Warwick).

SURREY: Today, v Warwickshire (Oval). Sept 3: v Nottinghamshire (Edgbaston). Sept 10: v Lancashire (Scarborough). 18: v Northamptonshire (Northampton). WARWICKSHIRE: Today, v Surrey (Oval). Sept 3: v Essex (Edgbaston). Sept 10: v Lancashire (Edgbaston).

## SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Durham v Glamorgan

CHESTERFIELD (first day of four; Durham won toss): Glamorgan have scored 73 for three wickets against Durham.

GLAMORGAN: First Innings

S P Jones lbw b Broad

D L Hump Campbell b Walker

A Dale not out

A Cottier cut out

E Extras (lb, w, s)

7 Total (4 wickets, 22 overs) ... 73

1st Innings (24 overs) ... 73

2nd Innings (24 overs) ... 73

3rd Innings (24 overs) ... 73

4th Innings (24 overs) ... 73

Total (4 wickets, 71 overs) ... 146

2nd Innings (24 overs) ... 146

3rd Innings (24 overs) ... 146

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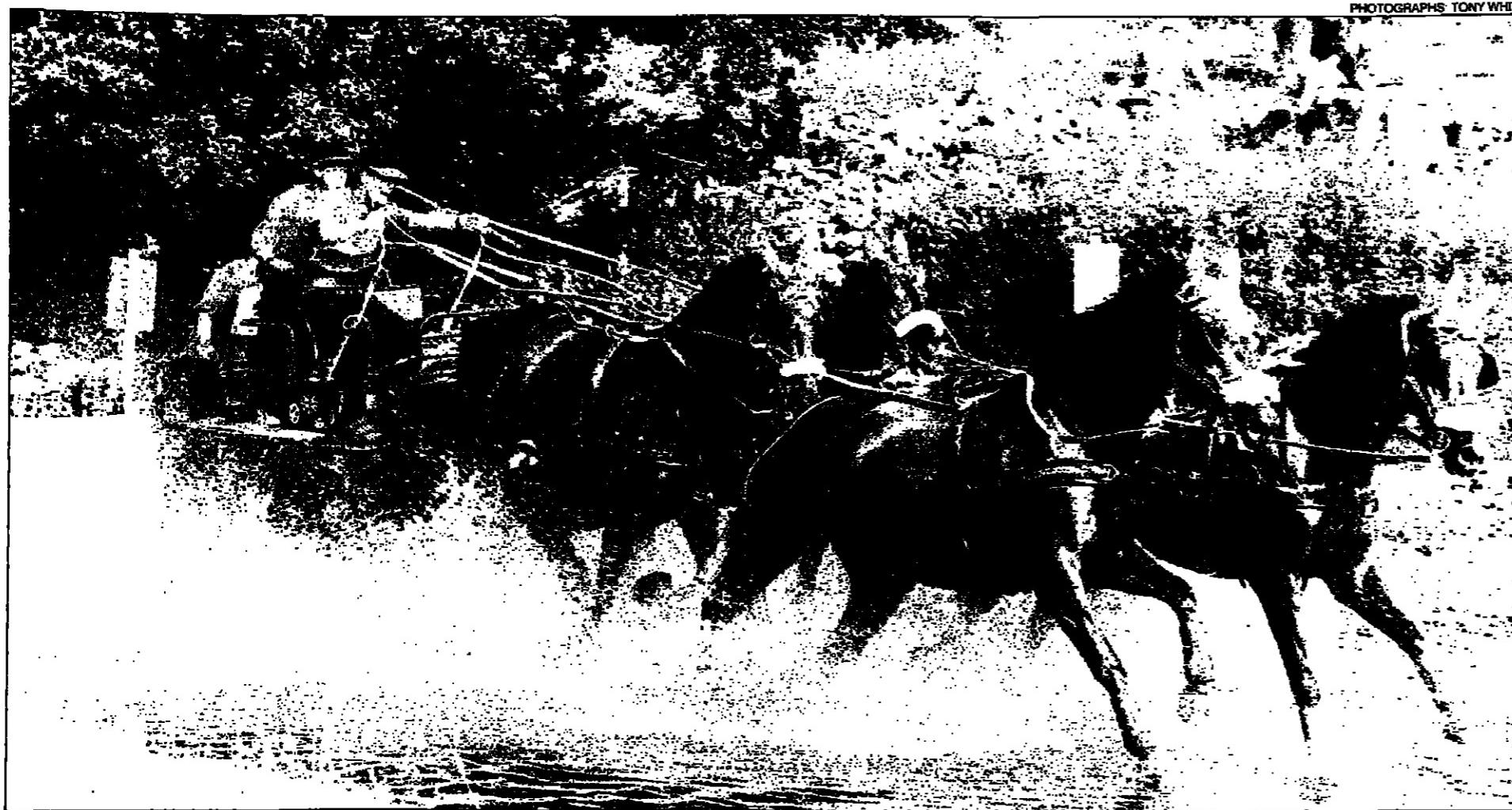
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3rd Innings (24 overs) ... 146

4th Innings (24 overs) ... 146

Total (4 wickets, 71 overs) ... 146

3rd Inn



Bassett, the British champion, can testify to the dangers and exhilaration of her sport, but is more concerned with the cost of competing alongside the best

## Sisters can gain whip hand for Britain

**I**t's a strange thing to do — tie four horses in front of a carriage and yahoo round like a maniac," Karen Bassett said, and she should know. A member of the Great Britain four-in-hand carriage driving team for three years, she is being joined at the world championships, which start today in Waregem, Belgium, by her sister, Philippa Thomas. It is the first time that two women have represented their country together.

They are, respectively, British champion and runner-up, having defeated the third member of the national side, George Bowman. Bassett, at 32 the younger by a year, is a professional; Thomas a sadder, just as it most of the time — "morning, lunchtime and evening". There is a friendly but keen rivalry between them. "I hope to be top eight. Pippa will be top 12 or 15..." Bassett said. "Change that around," her sister retorted. "It'll beat you!"

The competition includes dressage, a 36-kilometre marathon stage driven at various speeds, and a timed obstacle event to check soundness after

**Nick Szczepanik on the unique double act that hopes to reign in Belgium at the world carriage driving championships**

Thomas' case her husband, Dave. "He's heavy enough to hold the carriage down, and use his weight to balance the carriage on corners, like a sidecar racer or yacht crew man hanging out," she said.

They have to know where they are going, too. "They can

lose the competition as much as the driver," Bassett said. "You need strong guys at the back of the carriage."

Strong wills when dealing with the bank manager, too, for this is not a cheap sport. The British Horse Society will pick up the bills for the world

championships once the competitors reach Dover, but, apart from the expense of keeping the teams of horses, whose passports cost £118 each, a marathon carriage can cost in the region of £12,000.

Thomas' diesel bill, to move two carriages, five horses (including one reserve) and crew reached £4,800 in one year of 14 competitions. When she decided to move from ponies to horses, her sponsors were frightened off by the extra expense. "I had to sell everything I owned," she said. "I might have had a house, even taken a holiday..."

Expensive, dangerous — why do it? "The thrill of going round the marathon, really," Thomas said. "Staying upright and intact." A pause. "And competing against men." Male rivals have said that the horse team class, as opposed to the one for ponies, is not for women: far too dangerous. Women, they say, are not strong enough.

"I've been told that to my face," Bassett said. "It is a dangerous sport, and you do have to be physically fit and strong at times. But you also

have to be very dedicated and put the hours in to get results, which is why very few women succeed, or wish to succeed."

"It does take strength," Thomas said, "but if your horses are schooled, they should understand and be obedient." Schooling, in her case, even involved a crash course in English. Her team of Hungarian Lipizzaners only understood commands in Magyar when she acquired them.

The secret of success, she said is to "know your own horses and how they are going to react: what sort of things could spook them, like a big banner shaking or with light reflecting on it. You usually drive the same four horses in the same positions, and you can tell what mood they're in."

In Belgium, Bassett and Thomas expect the blend of their different strengths, and those of Bowman, to challenge the other favourites, from Holland, Germany and the host nation. Their aim is nothing less than the team gold, with this caveat: "Horses are horses — there are four different minds in front of you."

Thomas, left, and Bassett have a keen but friendly rivalry

### SQUASH

## Ryan capitalises on fitness advantage

**DEREK RYAN**, the Irish champion, took full advantage of Simon Parke's lack of recent match practice to beat the Englishman 15-11, 15-11, 21-15, 15-11 in the first round of the Hong Kong open championship yesterday (Colin McQuillan writes).

Parke is now fully recovered from the testicular cancer and subsequent chemotherapy for which he went into hospital in January.

The No 5 seed has regained fitness remarkably quickly but appeared rusty compared with the 6ft 3in Dubliner, who played in the Singapore Open last week.

There were other upsets, partly as a result of the new eight-man seeding system introduced on the

world tour this year. Rodney Eyles, of Australia, the second seed, was on the brink of defeat before beating Zarak Jahan, of Pakistan, 15-6, 8-15, 15-10, 7-15, 15-12. Under the previous 16-seed system, Eyles could not have met the world No 10 for another round.

Paul Johnson, of Kent, dismissed the higher-ranked Tony Hands and meets Ryan today while Jonathan Power, of Canada, fought back from two games down to beat Ahmed Barada, of Egypt, earning the right to play Peter Nicol, of Scotland, the No 4 seed. Only Nicol and Chris Walker, the England captain and No 7 seed, lived up to their rankings with anything approaching confidence yesterday.

Geoffrey Smith continues his examination of the successful collaboration between the librettist Gilbert and the conductor Solti. This week, he looks at how they poked fun at just about everybody through their operas (23).

**10.00 Musical Encounters.**

Introduced by Mary Miller.

Includes Gluck's Armide an

Tauride, Act 4; James

MacMillan's (Un)toad; Schubert (Abendschänden, an Lina);

Brahms (Symphony No 3 in F) 11.15 Rihm (Sine Nomine);

Haydn (String Quartet in G, Op 77 No 1)

**12.00 Composer of the Week:**

Brahms

**1.00pm Wandering Minstrels.**

Geoffrey Smith continues his

examination of the successful

collaboration between the

librettist Gilbert and the

conductor Solti. This week,

he looks at how they poked

fun at just about everybody

through their operas (23).

**2.00 Sherfield Chamber Music Festival.**

Helffer Wind Ensemble

Beethoven (Octet in E flat, Op 163); Krommer (Piano Concerto in E flat, Op 69); Beethoven; or Sedák (Symphony No 7)

**3.20 Preoccupations: Lights, Camera, Action!**

The pianist Barry Douglas reveals a

subject close to his heart

**4.00pm Shipping Forecast.**

Answers from page 42

**VIVA VOCE**

(b) Oral as distinct from writing, a live examination, for example at Oxford after the ordinary written papers, to test the degree of a marginal candidate. Bill Voce was Harold Larwood's partner in the bodyline days. The expression *viva voce* is employed in classical Latin, but the use of the ablative phrase appears to be of later date. The *viva voce* part of each examination is carried on in Latin.

**ALPHA MINUS**

(e) At Oxford and other examining places, it is customary not to give percentage or other marks, but to mark by Alpha Minus, Beta Double Plus and such gradations of the Greek alphabet.

Your general paper deserves alphas plus for chutzpah, Sebastian, but gammas minus query minus for facts and knowledge."

**REMOVE**

(b) At some schools, as Eton and Charterhouse, a certain division of the school. From the verb *remove* in the sense of promoting a pupil from a class to a higher one. Disraeli, *Contarini*, 1844: "Some unhappy wight in the remove, wandering about, seeking relief in the shape of a verse."

**MONITOR**

(b) Prefects, monitors, etc are a school's NCOs, controlling house and school matters on behalf of the beaks. Both names come from the Latin. A prefect is someone put in charge. A monitor warns and advises boys and masters about what is really going on in the shurberry. "I should like to appoint you a monitor, Sebastian. But I am concerned about your anarchic and underdog sympathies."

**SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE**

1 Rd8+! Bxd8 (1 ... Rxd8 2 Nc7 is mate) 2 Qd5+ Kd7 3 Ne5+ and wins.

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### RADIO CHOICE

## Radio goes to the pictures

**The Deep Season: Seabed Odyssey**, Radio 4, 7.30pm.

As this is radio, not television, descriptive powers of a high order are called for — and are generously provided — in Julian Hector's subaquatic adventure story. Down into the waters off the Cayman Islands he goes, aqua lung on his back. First, he explores the shallower depths of a lagoon where a Great Ray nips his finger; some fire coral stings him, and an Sif shark disinterestedly gives him the once over. And all the while, he is having a two-way high-tech chat with his marine biologist companion as well as reporting to us, the listeners, on the wonders of the deep. His subsequent 1,000ft dive in a minisub gives him a close up look at a sunken ship. Technically and, yes, pictorially, this is superior radio.

**Bausch of Wuppertal**, Radio 3, 10.45pm.

The German town of Wuppertal was in 1973 that Bausch founded Tanztheater Wuppertal. It is a dance company unlike any other. Ask anybody who has seen them do their stuff at the Edinburgh Festival. They *dance and speak*. In *The Rite of Spring* they performed ankle-deep in earth. In *Nenken*, they were in two feet of water, and 2,000 carnations filled the stage. Bausch will not explain her dance pieces; she expects her audiences to trust their own feelings about them. How does she select the dancers who will keep faith with her and her strange ways? She just looks into their eyes.

### RADIO 1

FM Stereo 6.30am Dave Pearce 8.00

Simon Mayo 11.30 Radio 1 Roadshow, live from Boweswood-on-Windermere 12.30pm Lisa 'Linson' 3.00 Clive Warren

7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Collins and Macmillan's 9.30 Hi Parade 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Clare Sturgess 4.00 Charlie Jordan with the Early Breakfast Show

### RADIO 2

FM Stereo 6.00am Sarah Kennedy

7.30 Wake Up to Hogan 9.00 Ken Bruce

11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 4.00 Debbie Sherman 7.00 The 'What If' Show 7.30

Hi to Be a Queen 9.00 Pau Jones 10.00

Daniel O'Donnell's Musical Chair (3/6)

12.00 Mendian 1.15 Britain Today

1.30 Ten Billion or Bust 3.05 Crooked

Rock 4.15 BBC English 5.45 Sports Show

5.55 Comedy 6.00 World Today 7.30

Sports International 8.10 World Cup

8.15 Off the Ball 8.30 Newsbeat 9.15 Health Matters 10.05 Business 10.15 Sports Roundup

11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf

12.30pm Mendian 1.15 Britain Today

1.30 Ten Billion or Bust 3.05 Crooked

Rock 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News

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Matters 10.



**GOLF 44**

Levenson hits the ground running at British Masters

# SPORT

THURSDAY AUGUST 29 1996

## RFU unlikely to be cowed by expulsion threat

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

**REPRESENTATIVES** from Scotland, Ireland and Wales yesterday stood back from the expulsion of England from rugby union's five nations' championship. True, they have temporised for only a week, but it is the first suggestion in a long and increasingly irascible summer that the Celtic nations appreciate their own situation is far from strong.

The three countries met at Heathrow on Tuesday night — significantly, no representative from France was present — and a statement from their television committee said that they had agreed dates for a home-and-away four nations' championship next year.

"This decision will be reported to a meeting of the full committee of these unions next week," the statement said. "Between now and then, discussions will take place in one final attempt to persuade the Rugby Football Union (RFU) to save the five nations' championship in its current form." Whether the RFU will choose to do so seems debatable.

It has long been clear to all parties that the loss of a sporting event such as the five nations' tournament is good for no one, denies players the opportunity to contest something that is part of the fabric of the game in the northern hemisphere, and denies spectators easy access to a series fascinating in its unpredictability, if not always of the highest class.

However, in the long term, the biggest losers would be the Celtic nations themselves. Many consider the moral high

ground to be theirs in this argument, but rugby having declared itself an open game, every commercial argument favours England and its population of 48 million, wooed by television and sponsors in a way that Celtic competition — even with French involvement — would not be.

"We have given England a last opportunity, it's up to them," Syd Millar, the Ireland delegate, said. "Otherwise the situation will take its inevitable course and that will be a four nations' championship."

England, as has been their stance of late, chose to make no official response other than to acknowledge the statement.

As matters stand, the only country with an agreement firmly on the table is England: their five-year broadcasting

contract with BSkyB, the satellite broadcasting company 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, is worth £37.5 million and has the support of leading English clubs, even if none of them are likely to sign an agreement which they believe is too long and offers them too little money.

"We had a verbal response from the RFU to our previous discussion," Freddie McLeod, the president of the Scottish Rugby Union, said. "It really has not taken us too far forward. But the door is still open to England to come back within seven days. Beyond that the talking stops.

I have obviously got to see what they can do with Sky and there has been talk of unscrambling [the agreement], but it would appear there is no unscrambling at this time. At the moment I'm very pessimistic."

The situation has been exacerbated by the unseemly power struggle within the RFU's ranks. The faction that could announce a restoration of the five nations' would undoubtedly win popular acclaim, but there is a growing belief in England's capacity to emerge from the crisis far stronger, as a playing nation, than their Celtic rivals.

The loss of representative fixtures, from seniors down to schoolboys, and the restriction, if one were placed, on referees crossing borders, would be damaging, but equally so to the Celts. If Scotland, Ireland and Wales have a television agreement parallel to the offer already made to them by Sky — worth £40.5 million to Wales and £28 million each to Scotland and Ireland — they are being remarkably quiet about it. No terrestrial company is likely to match the money available from BSkyB.

Even while the dispute developed there were discussions over A internationals and even of a one-off senior game between Scotland and England specifically for the Calcutta Cup. At the same time, England have in place a refurbished international programme that will include France, Australia and, shortly, New Zealand and South Africa.

"I do think the matter could have been handled far more diplomatically, but England has the major market," Nigel Wray, the property millionaire whose investment in Saracens has created such interest in the North London club, said.

Though we all love watching international rugby, personally I don't think there is much interest in watching Ireland play Wales or Scotland — there is no rationale for watching those games in England and, as it happens, the rest of the world likes bashing England anyway."

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# Will Prince Charles ever be bonnie?

A royal devolutionist could win us over, says Magnus Linklater

**I**t is not surprising that the Prince of Wales should have decided to spend yesterday, the day he became a single man once more, at Balmoral. It's not just that fishing a salmon river, trying to get the feel of the water and wondering whether a change of fly might do the trick, is the best therapy known to man: it's more about the perspective and detachment that a bit of open hillside a long way from London will have offered him as he ponders his future. Questions about divorce, a possible remarriage, his suitability as a monarch for the 21st century, and the role of Camilla Parker Bowles are probably best pondered in such surroundings, always provided he can dodge the telephone lenses.

There is something to be said for using Scotland as a sounding-board. For one thing, north of the border, he is not a future Defender of the Faith, one of the many burdens he carries in England, where his position as potential head of the Church dogs his every move. The Scottish Kirk, which has no hierarchy of bishops, which derives its authority from the congregation upwards, and which has never recognised the king as having any position of authority over it, will allow him to make his own decisions unimpeded by doctrine. Last Sunday, within hours of some blurred pictures showing him in the company of Mrs Parker Bowles, senior Anglicans were paraded to warn him once again about any future marriage. He may have been ill-advised to have been seen with her at such a time, but such instant condemnation gives the impression that the Church of England is a source of sound-bites, rather than wise counsel.

That truth is that neither constitutionally nor ecclesiastically is there any reason why divorce should impede Charles's succession to the throne, and the question of remarriage and his suitability for the throne will be influenced not by the Church but by public opinion. Lord Blake, Britain's most eminent constitutional historian, sees no objection to Charles's succession, and the Archbishop of Canterbury agrees with him, though there is a subtle difference in the way they express their views. Lord Blake, who has been consulted by the Royal Family, goes back through history and can find no barrier to the accession of a divorced king: indeed he believed that the unhappy marriage to Diana was itself more of an impediment than the separation. The Archbishop bends more to public sentiment in a nation where the divorce rate is now almost 50 per cent.

Whichever Prince Charles did marry would have to become Queen in due course," Lord Blake points out. "There is no such thing in the British constitution as themorganatic marriage . . . so if Prince Charles did marry again, his

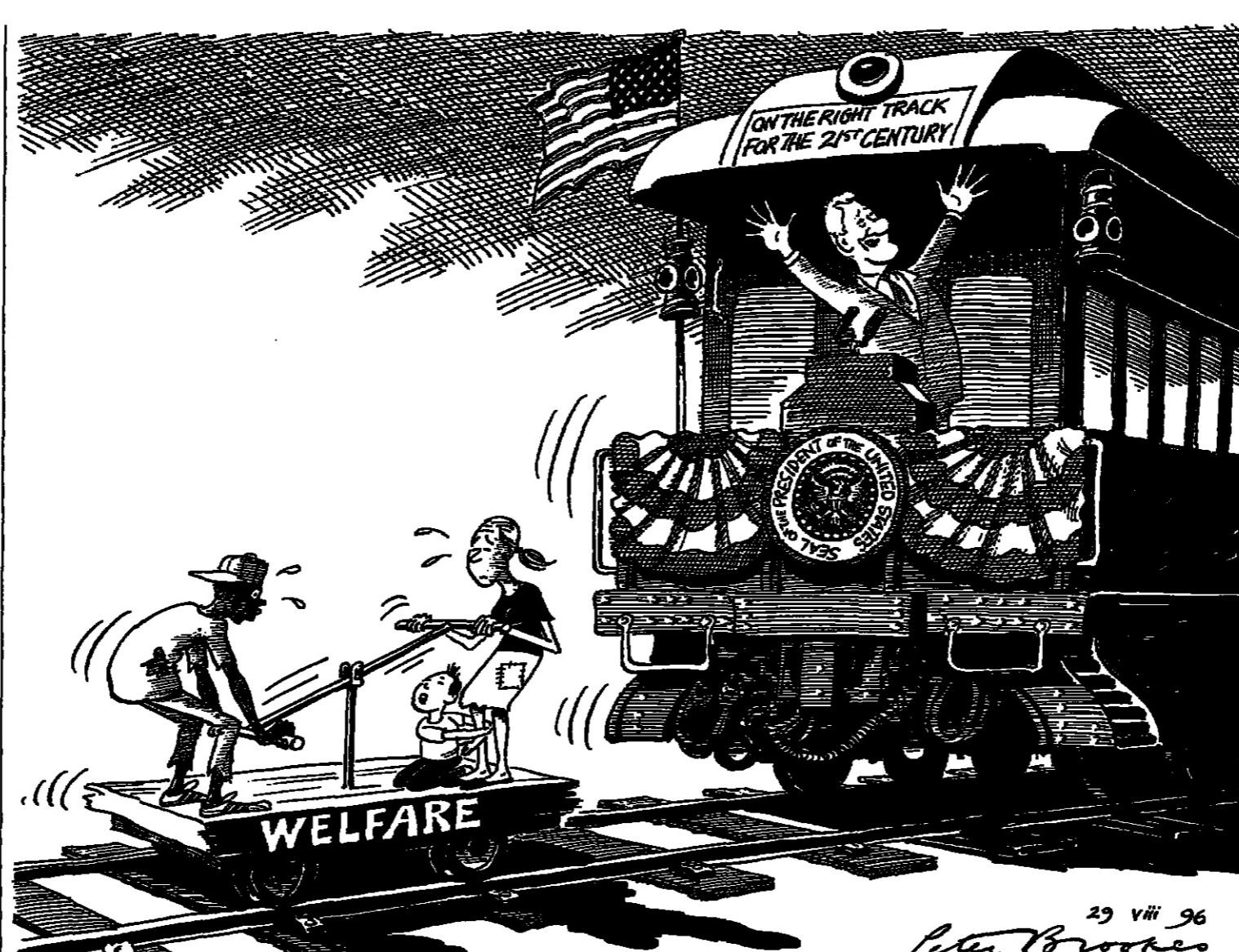
The Prince appears open to suggestions of change

choice would have to be one of which his future subjects could approve." So far, opinion polls suggest that the British people would, by a massive majority, be against his marrying Camilla, and the Prince himself has made it clear that he intends no such thing. But that could change, and with it public opinion. The question is, how will that decision be influenced?

Here again, the relatively detached view from Scotland may be relevant. Historically, the Scots have been far less enthusiastic about the monarchy than the English. They accepted the joint rule of William and Mary reluctantly, and viewed the Hanoverian succession with suspicion. When George IV came north in 1822, dressed in a kilt and flesh-coloured tights, he might as well, for all the tartan-clad chiefs who greeted him, have been a creature from outer space. Since then, despite a surge of republicanism in the 1950s, it has been the behaviour and personality of individual members of the Royal Family which have influenced opinion, rather than the constitutional role itself.

Some of them have won warm support despite the relative decline of the monarchy. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Queen herself and the Princess Royal are popular because they have demonstrated their enthusiasm for the nation itself. They appear to like being here; they spend a disproportionate amount of time north of the border, and they see Scotland as more than just as a place to slaughter animals. Charles, who is keen on wild places, and who spent several weeks as a latter-day crofter on Bernera Island, is nevertheless regarded with more suspicion. People, it seems, cannot quite get the measure of him, and this may have something to do with his private life. The Kirk itself, which is not Presbyterian for nothing, took a dim view of his unfaithfulness, probably echoing popular opinion.

**B**ut in one respect, the Prince may be ahead of his time, and, as the years begin to heal the wounds of the divorce, he could regain the support he has lost. It is no secret that despite the constraints under which he operates he is an enthusiast for constitutional change. This includes not just his future relationship with the Church, but the whole internal arrangement of the United Kingdom. He is, in short, a closet devolutionist, believing that if Scotland and Wales wish to take their own routes, they should be allowed to. That is far more revolutionary than his intentions, whatever they may be, towards Mrs Parker Bowles, and distinctly more in tune with public opinion. Given time, he may be allowed to speak out about such things. Given time, he may be equally free to marry the woman he loves.



## Apartheid of ageism

**'Drop dead at 40' might be the motto of the new Channel 5. But do the young want to be Peter Pans?**

**D**awn Airey is the programme controller of Channel 5, which will start next year. She is therefore a person who may have some influence on our society, though Channel 5 will have only a small share of the television market: 40 per cent of its product will consist of repeats and bought-in foreign shows which will have no more cultural impact than they do when shown elsewhere. Nevertheless, Ms Airey has an opportunity to provide a somewhat different channel with somewhat different programmes.

Last weekend she gave the Edinburgh Television Festival an outline of the new channel's programme philosophy. Channel 5 has, it appears, decided to go for youth. "We're aimed", she said, "at a slightly younger audience than the current channels." That, I suppose, is quite acceptable. If there is a niche in the market for a younger television audience, there is no reason why Channel 5 should not fill it. One may wonder whether youth will really be interested by the 40 per cent of repeats and inexpensive imports, but perhaps the 60 per cent of new products will be more attractive to them.

The odd thing is that Ms Airey went on to argue that youth is an audience which is particularly hard to win. The under-40s already have huge demands on their leisure time, and in her opinion they want viewing to be "useful", "revelatory" or "entertaining in a modern way". If it is true that youth has too many other things to do to want to watch more television, it suggests that the youth niche may be a marketing illusion.

Without further definition, one cannot tell what is meant by "useful". The idea of "useful" television is a dreary one; it consists of cooking, gardening, travel and "do-it-yourself" programmes, all of which are automatically turned off by many viewers. "Revelatory" too often means investigative programmes into E-numbers, misleading answers to parliamentary committees and stopping out in Scottish prisons, none of which keep the under-14s I know glued to their sets. "Entertaining in a modern way" suggests alternative comedians in dirty macintoshes making jokes

about condoms in studios designed to look like underground car parks. If Channel 5 is indeed going to concentrate on these now traditional types of boring programme, the other television channels will have little to fear, and the youth niche, if it exists, is likely to be left unfilled.

Ms Airey would like to have us think that her new channel will be politically correct. "There will be a sizeable number of non-Caucasian faces and a lot of women," she said. News will be presented by Kirsty Young, a Scottish newsreader, who is only 27 years old. Like the emphasis on youth itself, this all seems perfectly familiar. There are a lot of women on all the other channels. Perhaps women still have too few chances to tackle some of the more political and

foreign stories, but, even there the opportunities have improved. Non-Caucasian faces are not in short supply either, though again there are areas to which black journalists might have better access. All that one can judge from this is that Ms Airey will be a conventional equal opportunities employer.

**T**he question one has to ask is why she allows herself to make so great an exception of the issue of age. She is sympathetic to equal rights for women, and properly so. She is sympathetic to equal rights for different ethnic groups, and properly so. But she is brutally dismissive of people who are over 40. In her address she said: "The forties are only going to get older and they'll take their values with them." It looks as though "drop dead at 40" will be Channel 5's motto.

I have been trying to persuade myself that one should not take this too seriously. It seems from the rest of her speech that Ms Airey has been

as great a reduction of opportunity as the other great prejudices as racial prejudice or the prejudice against women. Men and women over 40 are still at the height of their practical powers, with experience added to a mature energy. Some jobs require the special qualities of early youth, such as Wimbledon tennis, lyric poetry, command of a platoon in battle, foreign exchange dealing or the "pretty face" jobs in modelling and television. But these jobs are a minority. Lawyers, teachers, bank managers, epic poets, secretaries, publishers, Cabinet ministers, all tend to do their jobs at their best when they are over 40. Yet far too many employers refuse to hire people when they have passed a certain age. The peak of human capacity in terms of age is very variable: ageism is just as irrational as racism or sexism, and just as odious.

The damage of ageism to the over-40s is obvious enough. Yet the damage to the under-40s is equally serious, though different. One mistake

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## CRIME AND CRISIS

### Belgium's paedophile scandal threatens the country itself

The horrendous Marc Dutroux affair has brought Belgians together across their sharp linguistic and cultural divide. But increasingly they are united in doubt and disgust with their fractured and scandal-ridden political system. The great outflow of public mourning for the two eight-year-old victims whose funeral was held last week has been succeeded by a mood of mounting revolt. Ever more is being revealed of the extraordinary and repeated failures of Belgium's various police forces to act on a mass of evidence that was available to them as far back as 1992. In *Le Soir's* crisp and unforgiving headline "Everything was known and nothing was done." It is a verdict that sends tremors through the fragile, fractious Belgian state.

With the arrest of a senior detective and a politically well-connected Brussels businessman, the conviction is spreading that Dutroux benefited from official protection. His early release from prison against the advice of the public prosecutor — a decision that has yet to be justified by ministers — was already scandal enough. How people ask, could a convicted multiple rapist have been let to cruise the Low Countries undetected, picking up children for the purposes of what appears to have been a far-flung and highly profitable paedophile ring?

The Government's initial misjudgment of the public mood has fanned suspicions of a cover-up. Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Prime Minister, decided not to break his holiday to attend the two girls' funeral and broke silence on the affair only this week. The more his Government now insists that it wants to keep politics out of the investigation, the more the atmosphere thickens.

Michel Bourlet, the public prosecutor investigating Dutroux and no fewer than nine others, has announced his intention of prosecuting each person he can identify on the hundreds of pornographic paedophile videos that have been seized. What held the

public's attention was his addition of the telling little phrase "if I am allowed to do so". Ministers promise that he is under no pressure, other than to establish the truth about this sordid tragedy. A sceptical public questions whether he will fare better than other prosecutors. They have yet to get to the bottom of a whole string of criminal scandals involving politicians, from the unresolved murder in 1991 of the politician André Cools to the massive Agusta bribery affair which claimed the careers of several ministers and brought down Willy Claes, the Belgian Secretary-General of Nato.

Belgium's politicians need convincing and early details of the precise extent of the Dutroux network. However slight the evidence that a cover-up reaches higher than the local police, a revived suspicion of authority will compound this improbable country's chronic identity crisis. The gloom over last month's festivities to mark its 165 years of existence is darker and deeper now.

When Belgium's neighbours give it thought, it is chiefly as the European Union's administrative capital; but the international status of Brussels is no guide to its role as a hub of the Belgian nation. That role has been made all but obsolete by sweeping federalist reforms under which Flanders, Wallonia and the Brussels region have acquired extensive autonomy from the national Government.

However bitterly they bicker across the linguistic divide, most Belgians would still balk at divorce. But the more the centre concedes, the more militant become the separatist demands of Flemish nationalist politicians in the prosperous north. If Belgium is to hold together, it must be by the centre's moral authority. That has been gravely weakened by the State's failure to protect young children from an unspeakable criminal conspiracy that, every family in the land believes, could and should have been detected not months but years ago.

## GENDER POLITICS

### Washington wives and the American electorate

There are few aspects of the American elections more alien to the outsider than the role played by the presidential spouses. Hillary Clinton spoke forcefully in Chicago on Tuesday night. Elizabeth Dole stole the Republican show in San Diego. Although Mrs Clinton has been a powerful force upon the President and Mrs Dole has been a Cabinet member in her own right, such a degree of prominence seems excessive. The position of First Lady has no official standing and few ballots can be cast on the basis of it. Various explanations can be made. Because the President is more Head of State than Head of Government, his office and all associated with it contain much that is symbolic. More broadly, the public standing of Mrs Clinton and Mrs Dole reflects changing perspectives towards women. There are a number of reasons, including accusations of hypocrisy in her financial dealings, why Mrs Clinton has been such a controversial figure. But it is her very career which fires both detractors and admirers.

Behind all this is the enormous importance that gender now plays in American elections. After race it is now the most striking and significant division in the electorate. In present polls female voters give Bill Clinton the lead by margins of up to 30 points: among men he runs even at best. Although this disparity is the widest seen so far it follows a 20-year period in which women have moved to the Democrats — a trend that runs counter to past historical patterns. Had only women participated in the 1960 contest, Richard Nixon not John Kennedy would have become President.

This gender gap, although frequently noted by pollsters, is still considered an oddity. This President's reputation for private dealings with women would not necessarily be thought an advantage for

him. Theories are offered that the Reagan-Gingrich agenda, with its economic centrepiece, hostility to government services, distaste for the welfare state, opposition to abortion and tough position on crime, has an emphasis and tone that attracts men and repels women. There is little evidence that any of that is the case.

Because there are far more women in the workplace, the question of tax levels or federal spending should be more, not less, salient than in the past. Fear of crime is at least as important for the female electorate. On average slightly more men than women favour open access to abortion. It is difficult to see why issues such as education should suddenly have become predominantly associated with women, especially as, if pollsters are to be believed, the data suggests they are not. A broad sense of whether political parties are empathetic or not appears to be much more important than specific policies.

It is within this context that the election this year is fought. That is what demands the high profile of both Mrs Clinton and Mrs Dole. Republicans, having allowed their attitude towards the sexual revolution to be painted by the more vocal element of the Religious Right, spent their convention trying to counter that impression. They proudly displayed their own women office-holders while placing Mrs Clinton in the radical feminist fringe. Although as much a professional woman as the First Lady, if not more so, Mrs Dole has used a softer tone and her stewardship of the American Red Cross to reinforce that message. The Democrats have responded through Mrs Clinton's attempts to capture the family values rhetoric that Republicans have lately dominated. It is a battle of interpretation, critical to the final outcome, that will run all the way to polling day.

## ANOTHER COUNTRY

### However inconvenient, no one can relieve the past

If the childhood maketh the man, what is a man to do whose family background clashes with his adult image? He cannot change his upbringing; he has either to fabricate, embroider or draw a veil over it. Robert De Niro, consummate actor of low-life roles, adopted the third strategy, while his studio liked to suggest that his past was as tough as his parts. But now the truth is out: De Niro's childhood was embarrassingly happy.

De Niro is revealed in a new biography to have been the well-behaved child of loving parents. Far from battling on Mean Streets or consorting with Godfathers, De Niro came from a slightly bohemian, artistic family and steered well clear of trouble. His closest brush with delinquency was to be thrown out of a department store for travelling the wrong way up an escalator with his friends: not the sturdies of qualifications for a life spent playing gangsters, street boxers and hoodlums.

De Niro is by no means the first to have suffered this dissonance between image and reality. Sixties bad boys such as Mick Jagger dropped their consonants to hide the legacy of middle-class upbringings and university educations. In that era of fashionably flat northern vowels, anyone born north of Milton Keynes claimed a gritty mining heritage. By the Eighties, when southern was trendy again, the line demarcating the two nations

moved back well north of Derby. Politicians are particularly prey to the temptation to play up (or down) their childhoods. Michael Meacher, the Labour frontbencher, claimed working-class antecedence that was some distance from the actuality. Tony Benn, the son of a peer, resents any suggestion that his father was an aristocrat.

In the old days, Tories would try to upgrade themselves socially. Michael Heseltine still insists on wearing a Guards tie even though he spent just a truncated period of National Service in the regiment before escaping to fight a seat. His colleague, Douglas Hurd, felt in the 1990 Tory leadership contest that he had to offset his Etonian education by insisting that his father was merely a tenant farmer. Having gone to Eton now handicaps a Conservative.

Not only do people have no power to change their early years once they become adults; the real problem is that they had none at the time. The circumstances of childhood are decided at birth by parents over whom children have no choice. For roughly 18 years, they are at the whim of their family's class, taste in houses, attitudes to education and so on. As our series this week has shown, people's lives can be powerfully affected by their place in the sibling hierarchy. The past may be another country but the map cannot be redrawn.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID BACON,  
The University of Liverpool,  
Department of Materials Science  
and Engineering,  
Liverpool L69 3BX.  
August 27.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Vicarious danger of medical films

From Mr Tony Van den Bergh

Sir, In 1987, for Central TV, my hip-replacement was filmed at the Royal Free Hospital. *Treat Me Gently* — as the film was titled — subsequently won a world award for medical TV. The operation was carried out under a spinal anaesthetic so that I was able to comment at every stage.

Everyone concerned agreed in advance to be filmed and only a third of the film was focused on the actual operation. The rest was concentrated on pre-operative exercises, tests and the training of medical students. Afterwards several of the paramedics told me that until they watched the transmission they had never realised where exactly their skills had slotted into the overall scheme. *Treat Me Gently* has been used widely for training nurses, and arthritic patients have written to me saying that they had been afraid of having surgery until they'd seen it.

For my BBC radio series, *Lifelines of Medicine*, which ran from the mid-1960s to the 1980s, I recorded many operations, describing what was happening as I stood at the surgeon's elbow. There was never any suggestion that we were pandering to the darker side of our viewers' or listeners' natures.

What then is the difference between those programmes and *Everyday Operations* (report, August 28)? Surely it is one of intent. We were motivated by the wish to dispel ignorance, not to entertain or cater to those who appear to derive vicarious thrills from blood and the scalpel. Profit was never our incentive.

Before any medical programme is put onto the open market, everyone involved, from surgeon to theatre porter, must agree with the filming. Every patient must be told in advance that the programme is to be publicly marketed.

Without the patient's wholehearted agreement not only is medical confidentiality jeopardised but a gross invasion of privacy can be committed.

Yours etc.  
TONY VAN DEN BERGH,  
5 Antrim Grove, NW3.  
August 28.

### Concern for the victim in rape cases

From Mr Peter Duffy

Sir, Today you report concerns that the European Convention on Human Rights may prevent restricting the rights of an accused in rape cases to conduct his own defence, including cross-examining a rape victim. This concern is unfounded.

The case law of the European Court of Human Rights establishes that the right to defend oneself in person is not absolute. In *Croissant v Germany* (1992) 16 EHRR 135, the European Court of Human Rights specifically ruled that it is compatible with the Convention for a state to require that a criminal defendant should act through a lawyer (paragraph 27).

The problem is due, however, to the fact that those who represent themselves are given as much leeway as lawyers. After all, the special statutory prohibition on questioning rape victims about their sexual history had to be introduced because lawyers, not their clients, subjected rape victims to irrelevant and offensive questioning.

All too often cross-examination is directed to confuse, unsettle and even denigrate the witness, in the hope of undermining her self-confidence and reducing her credibility in the eyes of the jury. This sort of practice was not invented by defendants representing themselves. It has been exercised predominantly by lawyers and in all types of prosecutions.

Judges allow it because cross-examination is thought to be an effective method of getting at the truth. But this is very much to be doubted. As we well know, persons who are confused and upset are not very good at conveying information, nor is it easy to assess their reliability in such a state.

The former Lord Justice of Appeal, Sir Frederick Lawton, is right to question the need for the gruelling six-day cross-examination of this victim (report, August 23). But we should question the wisdom of allowing such practices at all, whether employed by defendants or their lawyers, rather than merely curtail the right of the defendants in rape cases.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER DUFFY (Editor),  
*European Human Rights Reports*,  
Essex Court Chambers,  
24 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.  
August 23.

### Exam questions to baffle and bemuse

From Sir Patrick Cable-Alexander

Sir, The following question was set in a recent examination:

In an attempt to bring about positive changes in working relationships, it has been agreed that a staff group should be set up with the aim of looking at the interactions between members and to explore interpersonal issues.

a) Describe some of the group processes that may hinder the effective working of the group in its early stages of development.

b) Discuss the facilitator's role, as a change agent, in helping the group to work through their defences.

I defy anybody to guess the profession for which this examination was set, let alone the meaning of the question.

Nothing in the Convention would prevent extending to adult rape victims the protection from questioning by the accused which child sex abuse victims already enjoy. Indeed, far from blocking such reform, compliance with the Convention impels its urgent consideration.

In March of this year, the Court of Human Rights ruled (*Dooson v Netherlands*) that victims' rights are safeguarded under the Convention, in particular the right to privacy under Article 8. States should, the court said, organise their criminal proceedings in such a way that victims' interests are not unjustifiably imperilled, and, in appropriate cases, the interests of the defence are to be balanced against those of the witnesses or victims called upon to testify (paragraph 70 of the judgement).

The dreadful plight faced by the victim during the Edwards trial cannot sensibly be described as striking the fair balance between the interests of the defence and the protection of the victim's interests as the Convention requires.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER DUFFY (Editor),  
*European Human Rights Reports*,  
Essex Court Chambers,  
24 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.  
August 23.

### The greatest glory\*

From Mr T. F. R. G. Braun

Sir, When Pericles, according to Thucydides, said "the greatest glory of a woman is to be least talked about by men"; he was not casting women in a negative role" (letter, August 26) but holding them in high respect. Causing offence to an Athenian's (unnamed) sister had cost the tyrant Hipparchus his life. Their menfolk would not stand for women's names being bandied about.

Compare Dr De Lacy O'Leary's warning in *Colloquial Arabic* (1926): "It is a grave courtesy to refer to the women of a family; no inquiry after them can be made nor any remark which betrays a consciousness of their existence."

Twenty years ago I was the guest of a Syrian villager, custodian of the local antiquities. For a week I shared a room with his son. Was the father, I wondered, an otherwise childless widower? On the last day a door opened and I was presented to his smiling wife and ten beautiful daughters. "For any of these cherished women", said my host as he accompanied me to the bus, "I would give my life".

Yours faithfully,  
THOMAS BRAUN  
(Dean and Tutor in Ancient History),  
Merton College, Oxford.  
August 27.

### Cats and cowpox

From Dr Derrick Baxby, FRCPATH

Sir, Dr Thomas Stuttaford, in his recent Medical Briefing, "Dangers lurk in a cuddle with your cat" (August 20), refers to my work on human and feline cowpox. In case any reader is worried about the risks of catching cowpox from their cat I must point out that cats do not carry cowpox virus; only cats with obvious skin lesions are a risk.

Feline cowpox is relatively uncommon and cowpox virus is of low infectivity for humans; the chance of catching cowpox from an infected cat is around 1 per cent, and no one has caught cowpox after the feline case has been diagnosed and simple precautions taken.

Incidentally the "wildlife reservoir" referred to by Dr Stuttaford is more likely to consist of bankvoles and woodmice than rats.

Yours sincerely,  
DERRICK BAXBY,  
The University of Liverpool,  
Department of Medical Microbiology  
and Genito-urinary Medicine,  
Duncan Building,  
Daulby Street, Liverpool.  
August 22.

### Royals and faith

From the Reverend Dominic Barrington

Sir, In a nation where all too few children learn any religion at their mother's knee (Dr Beckwith's letter, August 27; see also letters, August 23) as observing:

There are two types of students: those who want to do a traditional type of degree such as history or English — and those who want to do something that is creative and allows them to have fun and make their own choices when they graduate!

To think that we traditionalists have educated generations of students in the arts, engineering, humanities, medicine and science without recognising the creative way ahead!

I'm just wondering if the old fuddy-duddies here will allow me to introduce a course in Materials Science with Scouse Humour. That, surely, would give my department the edge over the comedians elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,  
DOMINIC BARRINGTON  
(Assistant Curate,  
Mortlake with East Sheen Ministry),  
5 Vernon Road, SW14.  
August 27.

Business letters, page 29

Because of the delays resulting from the postal strike it would be useful, where possible, if letters intended for publication could be faxed to 0171 782 5046.

Yours sincerely,

G. B. RICHARDSON,  
Richardsons Inns,

Fifth Avenue House, Maxwell Road,

Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

August 27.

A good runner?

From Mr Clive Thomas

Sir, Your report today accompanying the photograph taken in 1924 of the perfect AA member, Mr Albert Pantony, mentions that his 1923 Triumph motorcycle has given him 73 trouble-free years and is still going strong.

Is it too much to hope for that the same might be said of his elegant girl-friend riding pillion?

Yours faithfully,

CLIVE ST J. THOMAS,

Hillside House,

Wrotham, Kent.

August 27.



## COURT CIRCULAR

**BALMORAL CASTLE**  
August 28: Mrs Robert de Pass has succeeded the Lady Susan Hussey as Lady in Waiting to The Queen.

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
August 28: The Princess Royal, Patron, the Butler Trust, today visited HM Prison Peterhead. Salthouse Head, Peterhead, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire (Captain Colin Farguharson of Whitehouse).

### The Very Rev Eric Evans

There will be a Thanksgiving Service for the life and work of the late Very Rev Eric Evans KCVO, Dean of St Paul's, in St Paul's Cathedral on Monday September 30, 1996, at 5.00pm. If you wish to attend, application for tickets should be made by Friday, September 6, enclosing a stamped, addressed envelope, to Miss Penny Bewes, Events Co-ordinator, The Chapter House, St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4M 8AD. Telephone 0171 246 5318 or 246 8304.

### Sir Brian Warren

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Brian Warren will take place in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Thursday, October 3. All are welcome, and those wishing to attend are requested to apply for tickets to: The Rector's Secretary, Room 3, 1 Little Cloister, Westminster Abbey, SW1P 3PL, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Tickets will be posted from September 23.

### Birthdays today

Lord Attlee, 73; Professor L. Barden, Vice-Chancellor, University of Northumbria at Newcastle; Dr Yvonne Burne, Headmistress, City of London School for Girls; Mr Michael Clarke, keeper, National Gallery of Scotland; 44; Viscount Devonport, 52; Dame Mary Donaldson, former Lord Mayor of London; Sir Nigel Foakes, former chairman, Civil Aviation Authority; 77; Mr J. H. Mackenzie, former chairman, London and Northern Group; 71; Mr Tony Newton, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the Commons; 59; Muriel Nightingale, national secretary, National Council of YMCA; 54; Mr Norman Plant, founder, Kent Opticians; 70; Mr Greg Pott, MP; 36; Sir Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 65; Mr Dick Spring, Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Ireland, 46.

## School news

### Bedford School

The Christmas Term begins today with 724 boys in the Upper School and 390 in the Preparatory School. Miles R.B. Harris is Head of School and David J.E. Barrett Captain of Rugby. Speech Day will be on Saturday, October 19, when Dr Nicholas Tate, Chief Executive of SCAA, will be Guest of Honour. The Right Rev David Farmborough, OB, former Bishop of Bedford, will preach at the Annual Service of Remembrance on November 10. Mr James G.P. Crowden, KStJ, OB (Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire) has assumed the Presidency of the Old Bedfordian Club. The OB Dinner will take place in the Enskine May Hall on Saturday, December 7, when Mr K. Srinivasan, OB, Deputy Secretary-General to the Commonwealth, will be Guest of Honour. The Old Bedfordian Rugby Matches will take place on Sunday, December 12.

### Anniversaries

**BIRTHS:** Jean Baptiste Colbert, statesman, Rheims, 1619; John Locke, philosopher, Wrington, Somerset, 1632; the Hon Charles Townshend, statesman, 1726; Oliver Wendell Holmes, physician and writer, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1809; John Leech, ilustrator, London, 1817; William Gully, 1st Viscount Selby, Speaker of the House of Commons, 1895; 1903; Louis, 1828; Maurice Maeterlinck, poet, Nobel laureate in Ghent, 1862; Jean Ingres, painter, Montauban, France, 1803; Ingrid Bergman, actress, Stockholm, 1915; she died on this day in London, 1982.

**DEATHS:** John Lilburne, republican, Eltham, Kent, 1657; Edmund Hoyle, the "father of the whist", London, 1769; Joseph Wright, painter, Derby, 1797; Sir Charles Napier, general, Portsmouth, 1853; William Brockdon, painter, writer and inventor, London, 1854; Brigham Young, 2nd President of the Mormon Church, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1877; the Rev William Spooner, scholar and begetter of "spoonerisms", 1930; Queen Anne, consort of Leopold III of Belgium, killed in a car accident in Lucerne, 1935; Cesare Pavese, novelist, Turin, 1950; Emile de la Béraudière, President of the Irish Republic 1959-73; Dublin, 1975; Lee Marvin, actor, Tucson, Arizona, 1987; Sir Peter Scott, naturalist and painter, Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, 1989.

**HMS Royal George** sank off Spithead with the loss of more than 900 lives, 1782.

Michael Faraday successfully demonstrated the first electrical transformer, 1831.

The Treaty of Nanking was signed by the British and Chinese ending the Opium War, 1842.

The first motorcycle was patented by Gottlieb Daimler, Germany, 1885.

### Reception

**British Safety Council**  
Mr Ted Quigley, of the British Safety Council's Board of Governors, was the host at a reception held yesterday at Armatours' Hall for the Diploma in Safety Management awards.

### Church news

**Appointments**  
The Rev Janette Taylor, Assistant Curate, St George's, Gloucester; W. Whiddon; to be Rector, Woolston (Wirral) and Aylburton (Gloucester).  
The Rev Roy Wyatt, Rector, Wellington & Weston and Clifford Chambers; to be also Rural Dean of Campden (Gloucester).  
**Resignations and retirements**  
The Rev Neville Biden, Curate, St John, Coulton (Southwark); to retire November 11.

## Treasure trove of textile history comes up for auction

### Designer's son saved work from being lost

BY JOHN SHAW

A COLLECTION of textile patterns saved during a family clearout 30 years ago is now set to make £70,000 as part of British design history.

They were the work of John Sylvester Wheelwright and show the changing nature of domestic interiors between 1904 and 1954. Wheelwright, at 35, was the youngest chief designer for Sanderson Fabrics in 1920.

He worked from a studio at Tonbridge, Kent, latterly, and during his career created more than 1,500 designs for furnishings, wallpaper, dress fabrics, bedcovers and silk motifs. Drawings were found all over the house when he died aged 76 in 1962.

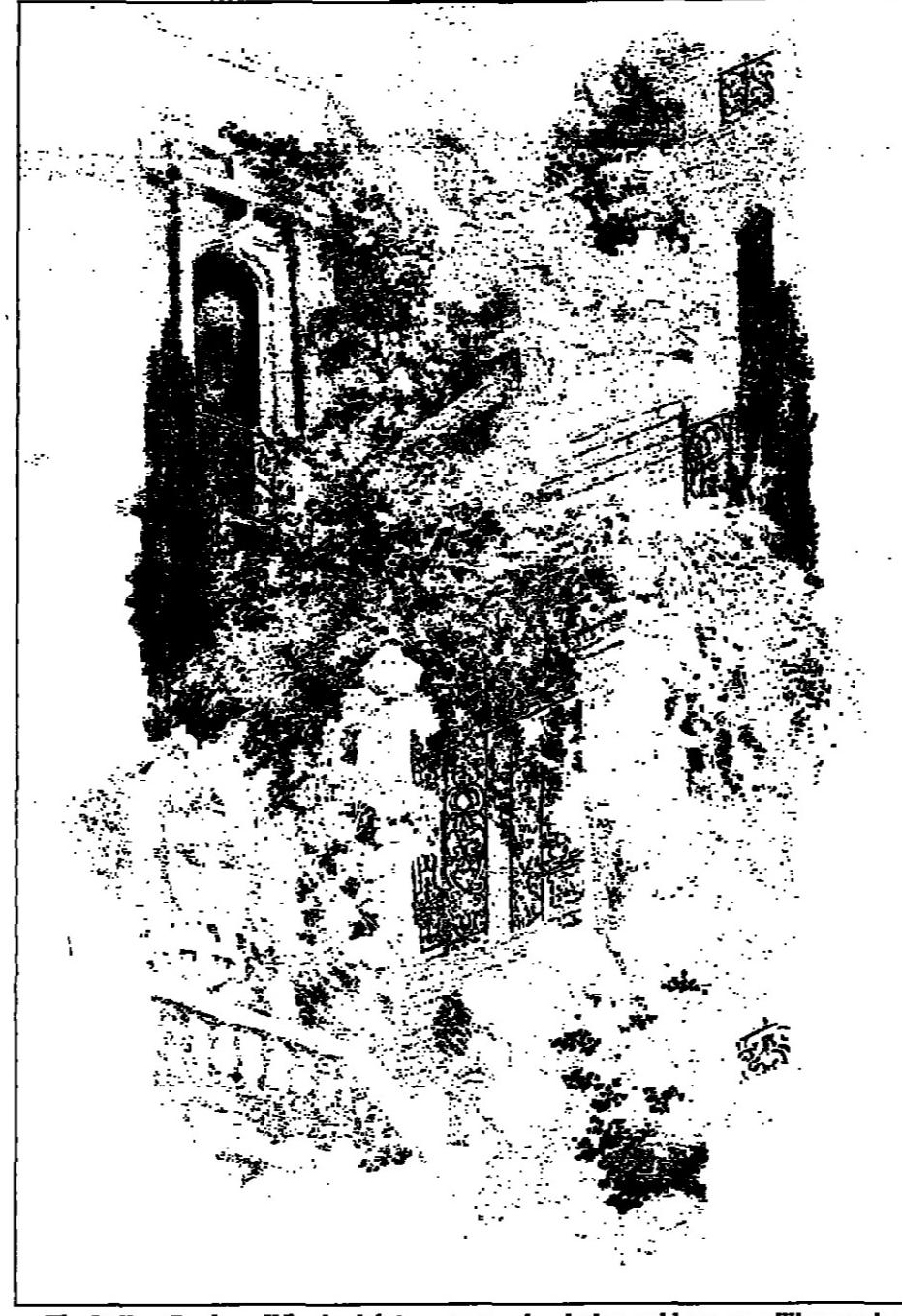
Dr David Wheelwright, one of his three sons, cleared the house but saved the designs and shipped them to his new home in Vancouver. Amanda Wheelwright, the designer's granddaughter, researched, collated and restored the collection and now 450 examples are being sold in London.

Susan Mayor, specialist in charge of the auction at Christie's South Kensington on November 19, said: "It is very fortunate they have survived. They are both highly fashionable and very desirable. This is a massive chunk of design history."

Wheelwright, who came from a family of artists at Bushey, Hertfordshire, won first prize for art at Berkhamsted School and served a two-year apprenticeship at the famous Silver Studio in London. He went freelance before joining Sanderson, the upmarket textile house.

Edwardian manufacturers were catering for the increasingly prosperous middle classes and his designs incorporating exotic and tropical birds, cabbage roses and naturalistic florals were popular. But decoration became more informal after the First World War.

Colours grew lighter and brighter. Persian and Eastern influences became popular, together with Romanticism. Wheelwright developed "The Italian Gardens" to reflect the Romantic mood. It struck a



The Italian Gardens, Wheelwright's most popular design, sold over a million yards

chord and became one of the most publicised designs of the 1930s.

Bountiful greenery cascaded over decorative urns in a setting of rough-hewn steps. The pattern set a world record that also included the technical developments of textile printing and production. He developed several machines but believed that the true advance was in multicolour rotary printing, a technique that was later perfected by Cocker.

After the Second World War Wheelwright reworked some of his earlier motifs like "The Orchard at Redlands", a 30in-wide cloth in seven colours created in 1950. Using bright pinks, yellows and greens it shows a more vibrant approach than its mod-

el. "Orchard in the Spring", el. "Orchard in the Spring", which transmitted a home signal. It followed the death of his son David, an RAF pilot.

Miss Wheelwright, 35, said in Vancouver last night: "These designs were in packing cases at home and I became fascinated with them because you could really see the evolution of British taste from the turn of the century to the 1950s."

"GP & J Baker had one of his designs, The Dippers, still in production up to a couple of years ago and there are examples in the archive at the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York which show that they are really timeless."

### Latest wills

Norman Frank Thacker, of Bradford, Derbyshire, left estate valued at £5,706,479 net. He left his estate mostly to relatives.

Beatrice Marion Willmott Dobbie, a retired medical practitioner, of Bathampton, Bath, Somerset, left estate valued at £1,598,151 net.

She left £50,000 to Clifton College, Cambridge; 48 per cent of residue between St Ann's Hospice, Bath, and the Bath National Trust; 30 per cent between Japan Animal Welfare Society; Great Ormond Street Hospital; Medical and Scientific Research Trust; Help the Aged; and Children's Army; and to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, London.

John Patterson, of Worpswade Hill, Woking, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,016,093 net.

Mary Edith Clare Stoeck, of Myosring, Garstang, Lancashire, left estate valued at £1,312,632 net.

Constance Martha Tilley, of

Manchester and District Home for the Aged, Didsbury, Manchester, and for the Royal Dogs Protection Society.

Stephen Charles Ratcliffe of Holesley, Woodbridge, Suffolk, left estate valued at £1,167,340 net.

Hugo Atherton Chisnall, of Marsh of Epping, Essex, left estate valued at £3,464,278 net. He left £50,000 to the Chisnall-Marsch Charitable Trust (1973).

Keith Edward Volkswagen, of Woodford Wells, Essex, left estate valued at £2,186,493 net.

Eric Katz, of Ashfield, Surrey, left estate valued at £2,016,093 net.

John Patterson, of Worpswade Hill, Woking, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,312,632 net.

Mary Edith Clare Stoeck, of Myosring, Garstang, Lancashire, left estate valued at £1,016,093 net. He left his estate mainly to relatives.

Balcombe, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,069,374 net.

She left £5,000 each to British Diabetic Association, Rotary Club of Horsham, the Royal Society of East Brighton Cricket Club Fund; Turner Home; Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research; Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Northgate Trust; and the Blind National Trust; and Salvation Army; £1,000 each to Talking Books, the Royal National Institute for the Blind; and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital.

Dorothy Florence May, of Hammarwood, East Grinstead, West Sussex, left estate valued at £1,296,444 net.

Eric Katz, of Ashfield, Surrey, left estate valued at £2,016,093 net.

John Patterson, of Worpswade Hill, Woking, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,312,632 net.

Constance Martha Tilley, of

cashire, left estate valued at £2,704,749 net.

Margaret Marion Ransford Steinfurth, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, left estate valued at £2,611,358 net.

She left £5,000 to the vicar and churchwardens of St Peter's Church, Harrogate. The remainder of her estate was given to the National Children's Home; Pawpworth Village Settlement; The White House; Entwistle, White Mission; Musicians' Benevolent Fund; Royal Star and Garter Home; Silver Cross Hospital; Sick Children's Hospital; Arthritis Research Trust; Workhouse; Harrogate; Neighbours Housing Association.

Christopher Salcedo, of Formby, Merseyside, left estate valued at £1,059,019 net. He left his estate mainly to relatives.

Pearce, M. S. Robinson, P. J. Sanderson, P. A. Bellotti, D. Dawkins, C. J. Yewlett, H. T. Jones, A. C. Eagle, J. F. Everett, A. S. Gardner, D. S. Hesketh, D. J. Hughes, C. Jackson, R. Page, T. Phillips, D. Smith, W. Ure.

**August**  
Fellowship:  
J. R. Coates, A. M. Costain, C. J. Farmfield  
Membership:  
K. G. Barnett, A. J. Blackledge, J. J. Collins, J. E. Copping, A. Davies, R. G. Farquharson, S. E. Haddad, A. J. Hanlon, T. D. Harrison, M. T. Harsthorne, R. A. Holmes, P. J. Kingston, B. A. Llewellyn, K. P. Pearson, L. F. Rivers, C. P. Smith, C. A. Sutton, M. H. S. Thornley, M. H. Turner, N. Alice-Rastani, D. A. Begey, D. G. Baber, M. D. Bagshaw, B. Barkan, K. G. Riley, M. B. Saidi, O. Schindler, D. T. West, R. J. Woolley.

**July**  
Fellowship:  
P. M. Benham, M. J. Blyth, S. C. Hewitt, R. L. Howells, C. W. King, B. J. Welch.  
Membership:  
S. Alexander, D. M. Fisher, D. H. Haseltine, J. H. McIlroy, R. J. Woolley.

**June**  
Fellowship:  
A. C. Markides  
M. L. Rogers  
D. A. Teale.  
Membership:  
C. A. Beddoes, J. W. Green, M. A. Smith, R. B. Ward, J. W. Yellowles, H. Chapman, K. Roberts, R. D. C. Thomas, S. A. Ayres, M. D. Bates, P. M. Bowley, D. Brady, M. Earey, N. L. Whittle.

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Membership:  
S. Alexander, D. M. Fisher, D. H. Haseltine, J. H. McIlroy, R. J. Woolley.

**Chartered Institute of Transport**

The following have been elected to Fellowship and Membership of the Chartered Institute of Transport in the UK:

**June**  
Fellowship:  
A. C. Markides  
M. L. Rogers  
D. A. Teale.  
Membership:  
C. A. Beddoes, J. W. Green, M. A. Smith, R. B. Ward, J. W. Yellowles, H. Chapman, K. Roberts, R. D. C. Thomas, S. A. Ayres, M. D. Bates, P. M. Bowley, D. Brady, M. Earey, N. L. Whittle.

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Membership:  
S. Alexander, D. M. Fisher, D. H. Haseltine, J. H. McIlroy, R. J. Woolley.

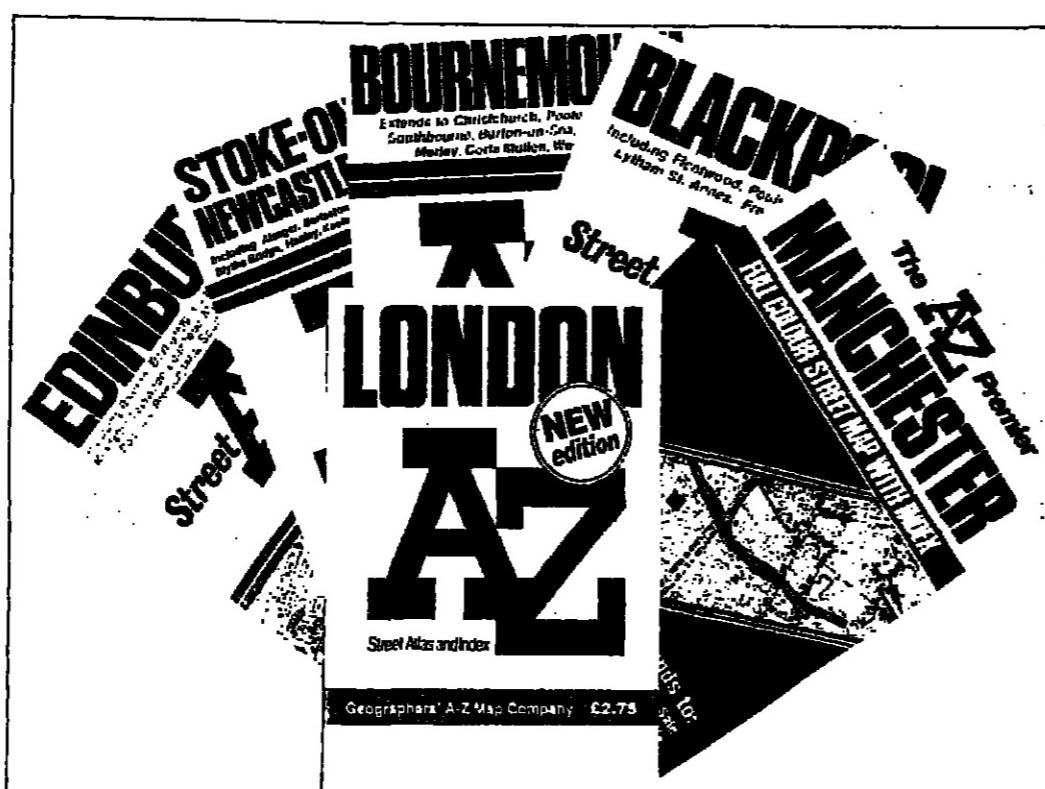
## OBITUARIES

**Phyllis Pearsall, MBE,**  
founder of Geographer's A-Z  
Map Company, painter and  
author, died on August 28  
aged 89. She was born on  
September 25, 1906.

**I**t was only in 1936 that Londoners were given a reliable guide to the confusing maze of the capital's streets. Published as the *London A-Z*, the map was the work of one woman — Phyllis Pearsall — who, from a bedsheet in Horseferry Road, had conceived, researched, printed and distributed it, with only the aid of a draughtsman. For the next 30 years Phyllis Pearsall regarded her lucrative publishing business as little more than a temporary means with which to finance her real vocation as an artist and writer.

She proved to be a highly unusual, indeed eccentric, businesswoman. She hated officialdom and never held board meetings, preferring to make up her mind about things on the spot. She refused to recruit new staff over the heads of her own people. And in 1965 she took the courageous step of handing over all of her personal company shares to her employees by setting up a trustee company on their behalf — a move which she hoped would safeguard the business against hostile takeover bids and hence allow it to retain its distinctive family atmosphere.

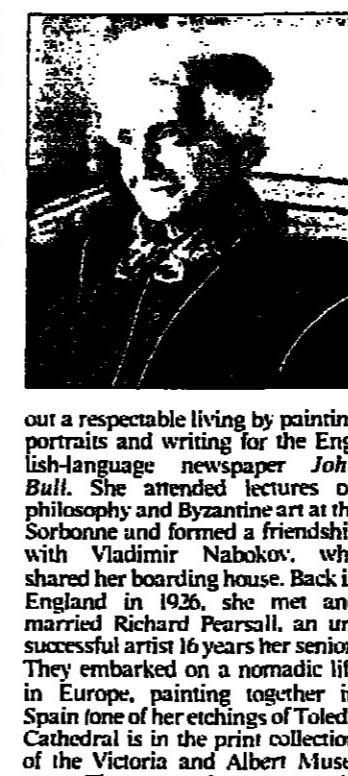
Thenceforth she gave up any legal right to dividends, pension rights or even employment, though the Geographer's A-Z Map Company continued to pay her a salary as its chairman and joint managing director. Phyllis Pearsall could be seen breaking the speed limit in her red Mercedes from her flat in



Shoreham-by-Sea to the company offices in Sevenoaks well into her eighties.

A small, deceptively frail-looking woman, Phyllis Pearsall had lived an independent life from a young age. She was born Phyllis Isobel Gross, the daughter of an Irish-Italian mother and a Hungarian-Jewish immigrant, Alexander Gross (later Gross), who had come to England to avoid military conscription. After selling gas lamps as

a door-to-door salesman, her father was able to open three shops, providing him with the capital to start a business publishing maps of the Balkan Wars, 1912-13, in partnership with *The Daily Telegraph*. Phyllis was sent to Roedean, where she was unhappy, but left at the age of 14 after her father went bankrupt. He sailed for America, leaving Phyllis at the mercy of her mother, who was now living with the royal portrait painter Alfred



Orr. Orr was not fond of children and refused to hear of Phyllis moving in. So, being fluent in French and German, she found a residential job teaching conversational English to students at the Collège des Jeunes Filles, Fécamp, in France.

Four years later she arrived in Paris, with no money. For the first few nights she was forced to sleep under newspapers on the streets but gradually she was able to eke

out a respectable living by painting portraits and writing for the English-language newspaper *John Bull*. She attended lectures on philosophy and Byzantine art at the Sorbonne and formed a friendship with Vladimir Nabokov, who shared her boarding house. Back in England in 1926, she met and married Richard Pearsall, an unsuccessful artist 16 years her senior. They embarked on a nomadic life in Europe, painting together in Spain (one of her etchings of Toledo Cathedral is in the print collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum). They parted company in Venice after eight years, before divorcing in 1938.

By then Phyllis Pearsall had moved back to London and was living in the bedsheet in Horseferry Road. She had the inspiration for her London maps in 1935 after being misdirected by the only street map then readily available, last updated in 1918. Having recruited her father's best map draughtsman, James Duncan, to join her Geographer's A-Z Map Company, she began the research for a

completely new London map, to be based on the one drawn up by the Ordnance Survey but brought up to date.

"I had to get my information by walking," she recalled. "I would go down one street, find three more, and have no idea where I was. The A-Z was the first from Marble Arch to Edgware Road and from Finchley Road up to Harrow Road." She claimed to have covered 3,000 miles in all, rising at 5am and walking daily for 18 hours to list the 23,000 roads. Despite her diligence, the first edition very nearly omitted Trafalgar Square altogether, after an accident with a shoebag which contained the "Tr" entries.

In addition to the research, Phyllis Pearsall chose the weight of the paper, the size of type, the copy for the cover, copied and proofread the index, and decided on a name — the *London A-Z* ("I couldn't think of anything else"). Once she had printed the first 10,000 copies, she persuaded the buyer at W H Smith to place an order for 250 on a sale or return basis. They proved an instant success.

During the war Phyllis Pearsall was appointed MBE in 1938. Phyllis Pearsall always considered her real talents to lie in painting and writing, an opinion which was backed up by moderate commercial success. She regularly exhibited in London and out of town. Her published works included *Castilian Ochre* (1934) an account of her travels in Spain, *Only the Unexpected Happens* (eight short stories, published in 1985), a company history entitled *From Bedsheet to Household Name* (1990) and articles for the *New Yorker*.

She had no children.

## DAME CATHERINE HALL

**Dame Catherine Hall,**  
DBE, General Secretary  
of the Royal College of  
Nursing, 1957-82, died  
on August 26 aged 73. She  
was born on December  
19, 1922.

**I**N HER 25 years at the helm of the Royal College of Nursing, Catherine Hall saw a considerable change in the ethos in which nurses worked, and a considerable amelioration in those conditions — although not nearly as much as she would have liked. It was she who oversaw the RCN's development as an effective trade union and during her stewardship she saw its membership grow from 30,000 to 200,000 (more than half the number of nurses working in Britain). Yet she was always aware that she had not achieved as much for nurses as she would have wished, particularly in terms of nursing education as it is today.

Catherine Mary Hall was born into background of disciplined service. Her father was a chief constable. She was educated at Humbleby School for Girls at Filey, Yorkshire. From there her parents wanted her to go on and train to be a doctor, but her preference was for nursing.

The outbreak of war cut short the argument. With women required to choose between the Armed Forces, munitions manufacture, nursing and the Land Army, the way ahead was clear for Hall. In those days trainee nurses' pay was pitiful — a mere £12 a year. With her background, Hall was among the lucky ones and enjoyed a parental

subsidy which was enough to make life palatable.

She was an outstanding student at the Leeds General Infirmary where she trained, and in 1950 she was awarded the first travelling scholarship to be awarded by the hospital. This enabled her to travel widely in Canada and the United States, giving her invaluable experience of teaching methods and administrative practices.

After a year of study at the Royal College of Nursing in 1953-54 she was appointed assistant matron at the Middlesex Hospital, London. In that post she developed her administrative skills, but she also demonstrated her concern for young nurses and the conditions in which they had to work. This aspect of her character made her one of the most popular matrons in Lon-



don and fitted her for her next career step. Yet she had grown so fond of practical nursing that when the general secretaryship of the Royal College was advertised she did not at first apply. It required pressure from friends and colleagues to encourage her to take the job in which she was to make the central contribution of her life.

Once she had realised that the RCN post would give her an unrivalled opportunity to influence attitudes within the profession — as well as attitudes towards the profession from outside it — she was persuaded. Thereafter she wielded great influence on all aspects of nursing, not only within the United Kingdom, but also internationally. She represented the UK on the International Council of Nurses and sat on the expert panel of the World Health Organisation. At home she was appointed the first chairman of the UK Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, nursing's statutory body.

She was appointed CBE in 1967 and DBE in 1982, the year in which she retired. She had been awarded an Hon DLitt by City University in 1975.

In retirement in Devon she chaired a diocesan committee on social care and played an active part in increasing awareness on social care in the South West of England in general.

She was unmarried.

## GROUP CAPTAIN WITOLD URBANOWICZ

**Group Captain Witold Urbanowicz, Polish Battle of Britain fighter pilot, died in New York on August 17 aged 88. He was born on March 30, 1908.**



Urbanowicz, second left, with King George VI, third left, at Northolt on September 26, 1940

not always an easy man to get on with. He was highly opinionated, and his British commanding officer at Northolt thought him "stuck up". The truth was he could afford to be. He was two years older and far more experienced. He had also shot down more German planes than anyone else during the Battle of Britain, twice attaining the remarkable score of four in one day.

After the battle he was transferred to staff duties at 11 Fighter Group and worked on setting up No 1 Polish Fighter Wing at Northolt, of which he took command in April 1941.

Later that year he went to the United States to lecture pilots on tactics, and later became assistant air attaché at the Polish Embassy in Washington.

Urbanowicz was burning to get into the air and back on combat duties, but he saw no possibility of doing this with the RAF since he had become a group captain for his US liaison post and was by RAF standards too senior to fly fighters — and at 38 too old. But in 1943 he was invited by General Claire Chennault to join the American 14th Air Force in China. There, Urbanowicz commanded a flight of 75 Squadron, the famous "Flying Tigers". In operations against the Japanese Air Force in 1944 he shot down three Mitsubishi Zero fighters.

He returned to staff posts in Britain and another stint as Polish Air Attaché in Washington, and was released from the Polish Air Force in October 1945. He had been appointed Virtuti Militari, the Polish Cross of Valour with three Bars, the DFC, the American Air Medal and the Chinese Flying Cross. Last year Lech Wałęsa created him a Brigadier-General in the Polish Air Force.

Urbanowicz wisely did not consider returning to Poland, and settled in the United States, where he took American citizenship. Over the next few years he worked for Voice of America.

He lived in New York with his wife and published three books of wartime reminiscences in Polish.

He is survived by his wife Jadwiga, and by his son.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**EX-SERVICES MENTAL  
WELLBEING SOCIETY**

We believe there will be a need for this Society to help those who have suffered from mental health problems during their service and those who have been left with mental health problems as a result of their service.

The Ex-Services Mental Wellbeing Society for men and women from the services including reservists, veterans and dependents will help those who have suffered from mental health problems after their service.

For further information contact:

COMBAT STRESS  
Ex-Services Mental Wellbeing Society  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW7 1RR  
(0181 580 5433)

LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN AIR-LICENCE**

To the Creditors of the deceased

The Creditors of the deceased

Mr. ALISTAIR JAMES DUNCAN

MORTGAGEE OF THE PROPERTY AT 100, STRENTON HIGH STREET, MANCHESTER, M15 4JF

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Cambridge

Westell Europe, the European subsidiary of the dynamic, US-based, Westell Technologies global corporation, is poised for dramatic growth. Westell is a leading supplier of local loop systems for provision of broadband residential and enterprise services.

By providing the critical enabling technology, Westell's products address the needs of telephone companies to continually upgrade their existing copper wire access network infrastructures in order to deliver interactive multimedia services to their customers. It is a leading developer of emerging technologies such as High-bit-rate Digital Subscriber Line (HDSL) and Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line (ADSL). It, therefore, is able to provide a cost-effective and faster alternative to fibre optic cable deployment in the "last mile" of the local access network.

Based in Cambridge, Westell Europe is looking for a number of highly entrepreneurial, creative and ambitious individuals who combine excellent academic achievement with significant development experience, gained within a quality environment. Knowledge of systems development, data networking and data protocols, Ethernet and ATM would be advantageous.

### TECHNICAL MANAGER

This role encompasses people, project and product management and requires a leader who can inspire internal and external teams but who also wants to remain involved technically. You will help to grow the business by your evaluation of new technologies and the development of these into products. You will be responsible for building a state of the art development

team and facility. Five+ years' experience of software and hardware development, using advanced design tools and techniques is required. Ref: WE/TM/ST

### SENIOR HARDWARE ENGINEER

To introduce innovative features to the products, whilst cutting costs and ensuring manufacturability. You will be involved from concept through to manufacture. A mixed signal background, possibly gained in a radio environment, would be ideal and your experience should include microprocessors, analogue design, DSP, Ethernet, ATM, and, preferably, silicon design. Ref: WE/SHE/ST

### SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Responsible for software and firmware development on all parts of the system. Experience in real-time embedded control systems using C/C++, network management, telecommunications network interfaces and specifications, protocol converters, eg Ethernet to ATM, and event driven SASD/Bosch OOD desirable. It is likely, but not essential, that this will have been gained in a telecommunications environment. Ref: WE/SSE/ST

If you are keen to make an exceptional contribution and to share in the success of a Pan-European company with phenomenal potential, we would like to hear from you. Please send your Curriculum Vitae, quoting the relevant reference to Deborah McGovern or Elaine Banks at Cambridge Recruitment Consultants, 11 King's Parade, Cambridge CB2 1SJ. Telephone 01223 311316. Fax 01223 316152.

  
Westell Europe Ltd

## Key Accounts/Product Manager

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Very exciting career opportunity for a dynamic and creative relationship manager ready to take on both product management and key account responsibility for a successful World Wide market leader. Highly visible product range with dominant position in major high street multiples.

#### THE POSITION

- Critically important role taking responsibility for the company's major accounts.
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## General Manager

To lead a specialist engineering company through a period of growth, change and investment.

#### The Company

- Leader in the design and manufacture of a specialist range of engineering components.
- Part of a growing UK PLC.
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#### The Role

- To profitably grow the business within agreed strategic parameters
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Applications are invited from candidates aged approximately 27-30, fluent in English and at least one other modern European language (Spanish or Portuguese preferred), and with an outstanding academic record (University degree or CA qualification essential). Business experience, preferably with profit centre responsibility, in the industrial or mining sector would be advantageous. This appointment is an excellent career development opportunity, as the successful candidate will work closely with the Chief Executive, and be required to relate effectively to heads of companies across the world. He or she should have the capacity to view his/her tasks from the perspective of the Chief Executive and among other things, will be required to write and interpret financial reports and forecasts, and deal with detail arising from board meetings. The ability to write clear and concise reports is essential. Applications in strict confidence under reference ACE5627/IT to the Managing Director, CJA, 2 London Wall Buildings, London Wall, London EC2M 5PP or Telephone: 0171-638 8987 Direct line.

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## SALES OPPORTUNITIES NATIONWIDE

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Our client has the No. 1 Brand in its marketplace.

After a successful evaluation period we are expanding their existing salesforce nationally. The role is to visit CTN's, Grocers and Forecourts developing the impact at point of sale of their products. Additionally you will be selling major promotions designed to raise awareness and generate additional sales. To aid this activity you will be introducing to the retailers one of the most powerful loyalty schemes in the FMCG industry.

We are looking for SIXTY Consultants NATIONWIDE INCLUDING SCOTLAND.

For the Consultant roles you should have previous commercial experience and ideally a recent sales background. Headcount will give you an intensive five day training programme designed to equip you with the necessary abilities. Your skills will be developed through further training both field and classroom based.

You should be aged 25-50 and a car owner. We will supply a fax/phone for communication purposes. The packages on offer are extremely attractive with excellent allowances.

Please reply with a detailed curriculum vitae as soon as possible to Andrew Kemp, Operations Executive, Headcount Field Marketing, 157-169 Walton Road, East Molesey, Surrey, KT8 0DX. Fax: 0181-979 2604.

## What's the big idea?

### UK Telecommunications Market

#### London/Thames Valley

For some people, it may not be enough that telecoms is expanding phenomenally fast as a worldwide industry. It may not be enough that it changes the way businesses operate, and even touches our social lives. But when you consider that our client is using telecoms technology in an inspired way to help customers make new decisions, they have to be described as more than a simple provider of information services.

They believe in radical and revolutionary new ideas, and bringing those onto the marketplace has made their future look exceptionally promising, rather than merely secure. They also intend to use technology to change and support the way they work, which has resulted in IS roles for two seasoned, results-driven professionals.

#### Business Consultancy Manager

£50K + bonus + benefits + car

Managing a high calibre team of business consultants, you'll work with them to focus on each sector of our client's organisation. Then, with a full understanding gained through your strategic discussions at director level, you will work out exactly how IT could support and drive the business area.

Together with the ability to operate, negotiate and influence at corporate level, you will also have a considerable track record in project managing the delivery of business

solutions, ideally within a telecoms environment. A thorough grasp of information products and methodologies will, of course, be essential. Ref: BP540.

#### Systems Design Manager

£50K + bonus + benefits + car

You will manage the overall design approval process on a number of high profile projects and set the strategic direction of all development activities. Managing the day-to-day activities of a talented team, you will blend skills and capabilities to ensure that all development work solves key business issues.

An experienced project manager and systems designer, you will have the ability to control and manage budgets. An understanding of PTT services would be preferable, but it's more important that you have solid knowledge of network technologies and management systems. Ref: BP541.

For either role, whether you are currently in utilities, telecoms or with a consultancy, you'll certainly have at least a good awareness of telecoms. You'll also be more than keen to work with people at the highest levels within our client's organisation, and have your sights set on further, rapid progression.

To apply, please write with your CV to Bill Paris, quoting the appropriate reference number, at Kramer Westfield Search and Selection, The Old Pound House, London Road, Sunningdale, Berkshire SL5 0DJ. Tel: 01344 875087. Fax: 01344 874877. E-mail: bp@kramwest.com

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Please apply with a full CV, quoting reference 1226/FT to Adrian Wheale or Tom O'Neill at Wheale Thomas Hodges Plc, Executive Resourcing,

13 Berkeley Square, Clifton, Bristol BS8 1HG.



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Hogg Robinson Healthcare, a Division of Hogg Robinson Financial Services, provide advice to major companies on Healthcare employee benefits. To fully committed to providing creative and commercial solutions, our name has become synonymous with quality. To help us capitalise on our success we are now looking to expand our Consultancy team in London with a high profile professional who shares our high standards.

Based at our Fenchurch Street office this is a dual role, developing new business opportunities together with providing existing clients with a responsive service. You will advise companies to the highest professional standard on a wide range of private healthcare services. Using your excellent communication skills you will build strong relationships with clients inspiring confidence and ensuring business success. A proven track record in a similar role, working with major client companies is essential.

In return for your drive and enthusiasm, you can expect a highly competitive salary, sales bonus and benefits package, including company car, pension scheme and medical insurance. Interested? Please send your CV in confidence to Ian Binks, Personnel Manager at Hogg Robinson House, 42/62 Goughs Road, Reading, Berks RG1 1NN.

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## Scope for promotion to Finance Director. GROUP ACCOUNTANT

CITY OF LONDON

MEDIUM-SIZED U.K. GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY:  
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Our client is a UK subsidiary of a recognised world leader within the financial services sector and a long-established, principal and innovative force in the insurance markets. The Group Accountant reports to the Finance Director and is responsible for statutory reporting, exercising control over a balance sheet of £1,000m and managing a department of over 30 people. The group has undergone considerable change to take advantage of the dynamic situation in the UK insurance industry and the Accounts function has progressed accordingly. The successful applicant will continue this change process including the upgrade of systems and the motivation and development of staff, to ensure the company maintains its top-quarrel position into the next millennium. We invite applications from qualified Chartered Accountants with 10 years' experience in the general insurance and/or London market, gained with a company or as a specialist in the profession. The successful applicant is likely to be an experienced manager skilled in the effective management of resources, with excellent communication skills and the ability to initiate change. He or she will also have the potential for promotion to the position of Finance Director in several years' time. Initial remuneration within a range of £45,000 - £60,000 plus excellent bonus and benefits package. Applications in strict confidence under reference GAI 5713/TB to the Managing Director, ALPS.

## Head of Procurement

### Raw Materials/Natural Resources

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Exceptional opportunity for senior procurement professional to lead development plans for supply chain management in this sector leading PLC.

**THE COMPANY**

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- ◆ Dynamic management team committed to programme of change and improvement. Drive towards best supply chain practice and leading-edge business systems.
- ◆ Report direct to Chief Operating Officer. Strategic and operational responsibility for Group purchasing on world markets, ensuring continuity and integrity of supply chain.
- ◆ Strengthen existing supplier partnerships, reduce costs and raise quality standards. Maintain strong marketplace and trade association links.

Please send full cv, stating salary, ref LD60504/R, to NBS, Yorkshire House, Greek Street, Leeds LS1 5SX

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For a free mutually exploratory meeting, please call:

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Harrogate - Gavin Brown - 01423 509 467 Newcastle - Graham Smith - 0191 477 4321

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Member of CDOA

INTER EXEC



## BRITISH SAFETY COUNCIL Appointment of Director General

The British Safety Council is an independent campaigning and educational body. Established with the primary objective of preventing accidents, injury and disease and promoting health in the workplace. The council continues to promote health, safety, and environmental awareness and to help workplaces to identify and manage risks.

Following the death in service of James Tye we are seeking to appoint a new Director General reporting to the Board of Governors.

The successful candidate will have a staff of over 100 and lead a team of managers running the full range of the Council's affairs.

Well educated and able to demonstrate a successful general management career, you should also understand and be committed to the Council's aims and objectives, whilst having the vision to take it forward. At the same time retaining the integrity and professionalism required of a high profile campaigning organisation.

An ability to represent the Council and its

member companies with Government, and in business and public life, and to highlight safety awareness at all levels is considered essential.

This is an important appointment and the successful candidate will enjoy a hectic but satisfactory work schedule as head of a dedicated and enthusiastic team.

Candidates should write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors, enclosing a full curriculum vitae and send to:

### BRITISH SAFETY COUNCIL

National Safety Centre, 70 Chancellors Road, London W6 9RS

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1st July 1996

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# Account Manager

c.£35,000 + benefits, including car

Our client is part of a US Group with a world-wide reputation for technical excellence in the volume manufacture of consumer products. Renowned for quality service, with a high profile customer base, this rapidly expanding, progressive organisation is well positioned to achieve further improvements in its operating performance.

Recognising that a superior customer service is critical to business growth, the Company wishes to recruit a high calibre Account Manager, dedicated to the specific development of the OEM and Software market.

This is a newly created position offering wide ranging commercial challenges in an extremely dynamic and fast moving environment.

Please send full personal and career details, including current remuneration and daytime telephone number to NBS, 103 - 105 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6EE, quoting reference 949A. Please indicate any companies to whom you would not wish your details to be sent.



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## KAFCO Managing Director

The Karnaphuli Fertiliser Company Limited (KAFCO) is a 100% export orientated multinational fertilizer company and at \$550 million, is the largest ever foreign investment in the country. In addition to the Bangladeshi Government, the project has attracted blue-chip multinationals including Marubeni, Chiyoda, Haldor Topsoe and Stamicarbon and premier Government agencies including OECF, IFU and CDC. The Board now seeks to appoint a seasoned professional Managing Director to succeed the incumbent, who is retiring at the end of 1996. This is an outstanding career opportunity within a truly unique operation of critical importance to the development of the region, which offers a three year renewable contract and a first-class expatriate package (including furnished housing, leave passes, schooling etc.)

### THE ROLE

- Reporting to the Board you will develop and lead the strategic direction of the business.
- Your objective will be to achieve world class standards in every sphere of the company's activities.
- Leading a team of 700 employees in Chittagong and Dhaka, in addition to setting and achieving manufacturing and commercial objectives, you will be accountable for the company's entire operations, profitability and growth.

Interested candidates who meet the above criteria are invited to send their CV, current salary details and a passport sized photograph to both addresses given below, marking the envelope (KAFCO/120096), by September 30, 1996.

The Chairman  
Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited  
GPO Box No. 3049  
90-91, Motijheel Commercial Area (15th floor)  
Dhaka-1000  
Bangladesh

### THE QUALIFICATIONS

- Preferably a graduate engineer with an established track record and at least 4 years' senior management, technical, commercial and marketing experience.
- A skilled negotiator and outstanding leader, with broad managerial, technical, commercial and marketing experience.
- Substantial experience of living and working in developing countries, with exposure to cross cultural environments and relationships.

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## The Royal College of Midwives GENERAL SECRETARY

c.£50,000 negotiable plus benefits

The leading professional and trade union organisation for midwives in the United Kingdom is seeking a midwife who is a visionary leader and team builder to work with Council in continuing to develop services for midwives into the millennium.

The successful applicant will be qualified to Masters level with wide management experience at senior level in the Health Service and will have represented midwives at national level.

Knowledge of the complexities of the current professional and work environment for midwives is vital to this role.

The General Secretary is the Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Midwifery and as such will need to be able to interact in international forums and have some knowledge of relevant non-Governmental organisations.

Application by detailed CV with covering letter to:

T Few, HR Manager  
The Royal College of Midwives  
15 Mansfield Street  
London W1M 0BE  
Tel: 0171 872 5196

An information pack is available. Briefing meetings can be arranged upon request. Closing date for receipt of application is Friday 13th September. Interview to be held in the week commencing 23 September.

## FUTURES SALESPERSON

A major US investment bank seeks to employ a Salesperson with a minimum of five years experience specialising in Canadian Equity and Fixed Income Futures. Candidates must have a proven client base, a thorough knowledge of US/global financial futures markets and options trading and at least two other languages.

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## EQUITY DERIVATIVES

London-based

Our client is a leading investment bank with significant operations worldwide. A new position has arisen within their Equity Derivatives Division, to develop the structured marketing effort in Switzerland. This role involves marketing to private banks, insurance companies and money managers. Business development through existing contacts and networking will form a significant part of this role. The role demands a creative approach to problem solving, and a sound understanding of the relevant business and regulations is fundamental.

Candidates should possess sound academic qualifications, with a business school background. In-depth and practical derivative skills, as well as product flexibility gained within a broking role, are essential. An in-depth understanding of the Swiss culture and working practices, gained through having lived or worked in Switzerland, is also essential. Relevant language skills, ie Swiss German, are required, as are interpersonal, oral and written communication skills, to assist candidates in developing a new client base.

Compensation will be commensurate with knowledge and experience. Applicants should send a full CV with covering letter, to: Alastair Lyon, Confidential Reply Handling Service, Ref 515, Associates in Advertising, 5 St John's Lane, London EC1M 4BH.

*Applications will only be forwarded to this client, but please clearly indicate any organisation to whom your details should not be sent.*

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Edinburgh Development & Investment Ltd was established in 1988 and is wholly owned by The City of Edinburgh Council. Its objective is to act commercially while contributing to the development of the infrastructure of the City in terms of good modern design, high quality product and added value in either economic development or social terms.

The Chief Executive will be responsible to the Board for leading the strategic development of the company and for the initiation, development and implementation of its

activities presently in the areas of office development, retail, housing and industrial development.

Candidates will be professionally qualified with quality experience in the property market. A knowledge of local government as well as other public sector funding agencies would be useful. In addition to a strong empathy with the aims of the company, candidates must bring the attributes of strategic vision, innovation, leadership and good communication and negotiating skills along with strong administrative qualities and managerial experience.

Please write enclosing a CV to:

Willie Finlayson, Finlayson Wagner Black Ltd, 19 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4PH. Fax: 0131 539 7086.

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EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

## DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Manufacturing/Engineering

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Working closely with the Managing Director PowerGen Gas, you will develop this business's gas strategy and business plans. In addition, you will have a key role in coordinating cross business gas related strategies and be responsible for market and competitor analyses. You will also monitor world energy trends, regulatory and Government issues and manage a small support team.

In complete confidence, please write with CV to: John Dinck, Managing Director, Simpson Crowden Consultants Ltd, 97/99 Park Street, London W1V 3HA. Tel: 0171 629 5909.

**Simpson Crowden  
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## VISA International Marketing Manager

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# GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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The Central Laser Facility (CLF) is one of CCLRC's major central facilities providing access to lasers principally as a contracted service to the Research Councils for a 250 strong UK academic research community. In addition, CLF contracts to the European Union (EU) to make the lasers available to European user teams and there are extensive collaborations with laboratories overseas.

Two world class high power laser installations using solid-state neodymium glass laser technology (Vulcan) and KrF gas laser technology (Titania) are operated and developed. These lasers deliver focused intensity up to  $10^8 \text{ Wcm}^{-2}$  at the international leading edge of performance and support research in high intensity interaction phenomena, plasma physics, X-ray lasers and laser fusion.

In addition, a suite of small laser systems is provided, which together comprise the Lasers for Science Facility (LSF). There are five laser laboratories having a variety of advanced frequency tunable and ultra-short pulse lasers of table top scale and a loan pool of eight high quality commercial laser systems. The LSF supports research mainly in chemistry but also in physics, biology and engineering.

All the facilities are in continuous operation for users except during scheduled maintenance and development. CLF staff support and collaborate with the visiting experimental teams and a theory group provides and develops sophisticated numerical modelling of experiments.

Professor M H Key, the current Director of the CLF, will be leaving the Central Laboratory shortly to take up an appointment in the USA and a successor is required to be appointed as soon as possible. The Director of the Central Laser Facility will report to the Director, Research and Development for the management and development of the Facility. This involves day to day management, the longer term strategy of the Facility and responsibility for the work programmes and total resources used. A key part of the postholder's responsibilities will be obtaining support of the scientific community, including Research Councils and other funding agencies, for the Facility's activities. The Director of the Facility will be its Chief Scientist and must have an established international reputation and a record of achievement in leading scientific activities in the laser field. The ability to develop new applications for life sciences, biology and materials will be a priority task.

The postholder will have line management responsibility for around 70 staff and have financial responsibility for a budget of over £5 million. He/she will be an excellent communicator, persuasive and influential and able to interact at the most senior levels within the Research Councils and develop relationships with other organisations including those having large scale facilities. As a member of the Laboratory Management Board, the Director of the CLF will be expected to contribute fully to the overall business of the Central Laboratory.

This will be either a permanent appointment or a fixed term appointment of up to 5 years, with a benefits package in the range £44k to £61k p.a. The appointee will be eligible to join the Central Laboratory's non-contributory pension scheme. Applicants should send a CV, a statement about their achievements, details of present salary and any other relevant supporting information including names of two professional referees by 20 September to, Derek Hotham, Establishment Officer, CCLRC, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX1 1QX. Telephone: 01235 446798

CCLRC is working towards equal opportunities and operates a non-smoking policy.



COUNCIL FOR THE CENTRAL LABORATORY OF THE RESEARCH COUNCILS

## Sales Director Europe

### Based London

As part of CUC International, which has over 10,000 employees and 46 million members, we work in partnership with our clients to provide membership-based discount services that enable them to acquire and retain their own customers. We also publish City guides which feature restaurants prepared to give a 25% discount. They range from 2 Michelin star fine dining restaurants to local brasseries and national fast food chains. Other distribution channels include electronic loyalty programmes and the Internet.

You will lead, manage and direct our sales team, based in seven offices across Europe, responsible for acquiring and maintaining the merchants. Our merchant base currently totals 13,000 and apart from restaurants, includes retailers, hotels and holiday/travel companies. You will be personally responsible for liaising with the head offices of our major accounts to ensure their full potential is maximised and that your team is providing service to the highest standards at all times.

You should have substantial experience of sales and people management, including budget responsibility, preferably within the hotel and restaurant sector, as well as management experience within a professional multi-site business. You must have the personal qualities needed to relate to people at all levels, while a second European language, ideally French, would be a definite advantage.

We offer a competitive salary and benefits package as well as an exciting opportunity to really progress your career in a group which has recently become one of the top 500 in the world in terms of market value.

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entertainment

## Euromoney Publications PLC

The book publishing division of Euromoney needs a graduate, probably with two or three years' experience in a commercial, but not necessarily publishing, environment, to join an established sponsorship sales team.

The job is primarily to sell big-ticket sponsorship deals for Euromoney's books to senior banking, corporate and government officers in face-to-face presentations. This involves extensive international travel. Candidates must be highly articulate and presentable. They need a knowledge of or interest in economic, financial and business matters. They must be capable of researching and writing detailed proposals for books. Responsibility will come very quickly to the successful candidate, who will be expected to work independently and administer his or her own time effectively.

The position offers an adequate basic salary, and a genuine opportunity for high earnings from commission and profit share.

To apply, please telephone Christopher Garnett on 0171 779 8562

## Magellan/Passport Engineers

BCI Inc., an international telecommunications services company, is seeking qualified Magellan/Passport Engineers for positions in Europe and the United States with experience in one or more of the following areas: Networks, Customer support, Sonet/SDH. Send your resume to: BCI Inc., Attention MLS, P.O. Box 221590, Chantilly, VA, USA, 20151-3813, Fax 001-703-222-0205 or Email <StocksML@aol.com>

## DMS 100 Operational Testers

BCI Inc., an international telecommunications services company, is seeking qualified DMS 100 Operational Testers for positions in Europe and the United States. Candidates must have experience conducting the following tests: power verification, system loading & traffic, terminal and data link set up, core PM & TIP diagnostic, LAN, assessment, alarm, AMA, tone, announcement, trunk circuit and custom call feature. Send your resume to: BCI Inc., Attention MLS, P.O. Box 221590, Chantilly, VA, USA, 20151-3813, Fax 001-703-222-0205 or Email <StocksML@aol.com>

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We have tested the market. We know the response. We now require professional, enthusiastic sales people. Only those looking to earn a MINIMUM £30,000 per annum will be considered. We expect several people to become area managers and earn considerably more.  
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Many of our competitors claim to operate internationally, most do not. Antal International is one of the few search and selection companies that is equipped to execute cross border, pan-European and North American assignments. We pool our resources through a fully integrated office network where everyone has the incentive to share information for the benefit of our clients. This ensures that we are winning business against our larger competitors. Our vision is to be the number one in global emerging markets by the year 2004.

##### THE ROLE

We are able to offer truly outstanding opportunities to all our consultants based in our new West End offices. We offer excellent career progression, with the possibility of travel to our overseas offices. By use of our sophisticated client management techniques, portfolio approach, information sharing and established infrastructure we anticipate your success will be 25 to 40% greater than with a domestic competitor. You will have operational responsibility for assignments across disciplines but within specific industry sectors. You will be expected to gain in-depth knowledge of the industry sectors in which you choose to operate. Strong areas for the company include FMCG, Telecoms, Pharmaceuticals, Legal, Engineering, Financial Services and Banking.

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If you recognise the benefit of combining strong individual sales skills with a team-based approach to sourcing across international boundaries, we need you in our team. Qualities of 'thought leadership' are especially important for our clients in the developing and emerging markets. Your own initiative and results orientation will ensure a tremendously rewarding career within an organisation that has an assignment completion rate that leads to 70% repeat business. No other international recruitment company is developing as rapidly or shares our vision.

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*All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.*

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Racal-BRT is already one of the UK's largest private telecommunications networks and we're still growing. As part of our determination to seize every opportunity to drive into new, untapped markets, we have created a number of positions for account managers within our Customer Services Division. The aim is to consolidate and develop the service we currently provide to our existing railway-related customers and build business with potential customers in new commercial areas.

The main focus of the roles will be to establish and maintain strategic relationships with the directors and senior managers of selected customers. It will involve creating account development plans, showing clear deliverables, leading to fully managed service relationships for all the customers' telecommunications needs. The account teams will act as the primary interface for all services provided to the customer and take responsibility for customer revenue, expected to be between £5-£10 million gross for each account. They will also produce a 'quality of service' improvement plan in liaison with our internal departments.

Suitable applicants will probably have a background in telecommunications or IT services in the industrial technical services sector, with experience in both the public and private sectors and a strong track record in account (revenue) development. For the posts of Senior Account Manager, applicants are likely to have at least five years' relevant experience and perhaps an MBA or other business-related qualification. Successful applicants for the Account Manager posts will have a minimum of three years' experience.

To apply for these exciting opportunities with one of this booming sector's most ambitious companies, please send your c.v. and current salary details, quoting reference 956A, to Barkers Response Services, 103-105 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6EE. Closing date for applications is 16th September 1996.

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Providing essential liaison and administration as part of multi-million account support team. Requiring strong business skills to co-ordinate resources and develop customer relationships. Salary to £20,000.

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To apply, call Caroline Maddison 0181 380 8101. **MORSE**



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Interested? Then send your CV, a recent photograph, and a covering letter clearly highlighting your achievements to our managing consultant, Frank Ingram, quoting reference 2187/B, Lansdowne, Rosedale House, Rosedale Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2SZ.

Fax: +44 81 332 6902.

e-mail address: [lansdowne@piped.pipex.com](mailto:lansdowne@piped.pipex.com).

Interviews can be arranged in all major centres throughout the above regions.



## Help Direct our Strategic Development BUSINESS PLANNING MANAGER

Swindon

c.£30,000 + car + bonus + benefits

As the leading building society committed to retaining its mutual status, Nationwide constantly seeks to enhance its understanding of the financial services marketplace as a means of sharpening competitive strategies and improving business performance. To stay ahead in a fiercely competitive marketplace, we recognise the vital importance of high quality research and analysis aimed at identifying market trends and maximising business opportunities.

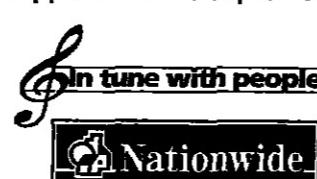
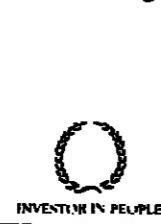
An excellent opportunity has arisen within our Planning Department in Head Office for an individual who can combine first-class analytical skills with a keen sense of commercial relevance. The role involves the leadership of a small team of analysts with the primary objective of identifying and developing business opportunities through monitoring developments across the full spectrum of the Society's markets and evaluating the business implications.

The ideal candidate is likely to be a graduate, probably in an economics or business-related subject and possibly with a higher degree. They will have extensive experience of market analysis in a commercial environment leading to operational activity, preferably in the financial services industry. The role requires proven skills in business modelling and probably some experience of managing others. The interpersonal skills necessary to develop effective working relationships with key personnel throughout the group are essential, along with the ability to deliver high quality work to tight deadlines.

We offer an excellent package including car, subsidised mortgage, private health insurance, pension scheme and relocation package.

To apply, please send a CV stating current salary to: Elizabeth Honey, Human Resources Operations, Ground Floor Block B, Nationwide Building Society, Nationwide House, Pipers Way, Swindon SN38 1HR.

Closing date for receipt of applications: 13 September 1996.



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You will support the work of the European Affairs and Single Currency Unit in the provision of accurate and timely information and analysis of developments in payment systems in Europe and on the work and stance of all relevant authorities. A key strategic issue confronting the UK payments industry is present in the potential impact of a single currency. You will have a working knowledge of the payments business and an understanding of the inter-bank environment. You must demonstrate excellent communications and analytical skills which will enable you to develop proposals and produce logically structured, well argued analysis. You will be a graduate. A working knowledge of a foreign language would be an advantage.

Applications, including CV with current salary details, should be sent by 13 September 1996, to Mrs Chris Bailey, Assistant Personnel Manager, APACS (Administration) Limited, Mercury House, Triton Court, 14 Finsbury Square, London, EC2A 1BP.

### DOCUMENTARY CREDIT CLERK

The successful candidate will have a minimum of 2 years work experience in either a bank or with a Commodity Trading Company, involved in commodities trade finance with an emphasis on Documentary credits. The role includes liaison between the different parties involved in trade-related financing both within and outside the company.

Candidates should have previous experience of issuing Letters of Credit/Indemnities and be comfortable in structuring and reviewing transactions independently.

In addition to banking experience, excellent communication and organisational skills are essential together with good keyboard skills and a working knowledge of Microsoft Word.

Must have initiative, be motivated and an ability to work to deadlines and under pressure.

Preferred age: 25+

Please Reply to Box No 8315

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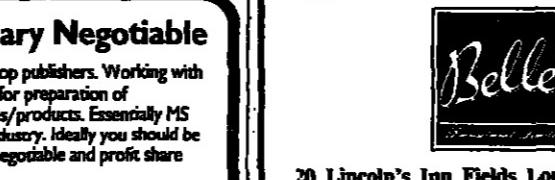
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Join the exciting world of Central London property with the City's most progressive property management firm. We are a fast growing sales negotiator, ideally aged 24-27. Must live in Central London and have a good academic record. No previous experience required but necessarily in estate agency. Above all must be ambitious, energetic and commercially motivated. Salary c.£16,000 + car. GTR after first year £18,000.  
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Full time. Duties include small areas of famous City firm and use your excellent WP and diary management skills. Arranging travel will be a major part of this demanding position. Must be fully conversant with MSW V.6.

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The opportunity has arisen for a Secretary with at least 3 years' personnel experience to work for the Head of Personnel, and with specific responsibilities for scheduling interviews, references, contracts of employment, database and personnel files, induction material, benefits administration.

Attention to detail and a broad range of IT skills are essential, specifically W4W, Lotus 123Excel. Ideally you will have previous knowledge of PS2000 or similar computerised records system. You will be a professional, mature and friendly individual who enjoys a challenge (and is seeking one).

To apply please forward your CV with a covering letter stating current salary to Mary Murphy, Personnel Officer, King Sturge & Co, 7 Strandgate Place, London W1N 9AE.

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Required for small but busy W1 property advisors. Knowledge of Microsoft Word for Windows and previous property experience essential. In addition to PA work for Chairman, position involves basic secretarial duties for two other surveyors.

Salary c.£16,500.

Please send CV to: Sara Burgess, Kenneth Peters, 15 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0BR or fax to: 0171-436 5465.

Write applications including your CV, in confidence to M. Devereux, 4 Cheapside Place, London W1D 4DA.

Salary c.£16,500.

Please send CV to: Sara Burgess, Kenneth Peters, 15 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0BR or fax to: 0171-436 5465.

## FINANCIAL APPOINTMENTS

**Anadarko**  
Algeria Corporation

### FINANCE, CONTRACTS & ADMINISTRATION

Opportunities with a New Arrival  
in Upstream Oil & Gas

Anadarko Algeria Corporation, a subsidiary of the highly successful US based Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, has made significant hydrocarbon discoveries in the Saharan desert. To support the exploitation of these fields, and the search for further reserves, Anadarko are establishing a UK headquarters in Uxbridge, Middlesex. Consequently, we now have excellent opportunities for high-calibre professionals within the Finance, Contracts and Administration departments of this new office.

In all cases candidates should be graduates and professionally qualified, computer literate with a minimum of four years relevant upstream oil and gas experience. For the accountancy position, knowledge of the IDEAS accounts system is desirable and the ability to speak French is an advantage for some positions.

#### Financial Systems Co-ordinator

- Liaison between IT and Financial departments
- Advise on applications
- Develop customised reports
- Train users in financial applications (Ref AAC5)

#### Employee Accountant

- Coordinate UK payroll processing
- Employee Expenses
- VAT records and administration
- Assist with audits and special projects (Ref AAC8)

#### Senior Budget Analyst

- Lead team effort to develop budgets
- Production and revision of reports
- Participate in development and approval of AFEs
- Develop procedures for construction projects cost control
- French language an advantage (Ref AAC9)

#### Administrative Analyst

- Prepare & process AFEs
- Code and process timesheets
- Expense report coding and processing
- Office services and equipment lease support (Ref AAC2)

#### Joint Ventures Accountant

- Management reporting
- Joint Interest billings
- Assist with Algerian tax on remuneration
- Help implement oil production accounting system (Ref AAC6)

#### Contracts Administrator

- Administration of contracts from initial request through to award, completion and close out
- Assist in drafting of agreements and amendments
- Coordinate contract approval procedures
- Draft and monitor correspondence
- Maintain contracts database and file/distribution system
- French language an advantage (Ref AAC4)

#### Fixed Assets Accountant

- Reconcile inventory of fixed assets to accounting records
- Depreciation of JV fixed assets
- Processing of warehouse inventory records
- Assist with audits and special projects (Ref AAC7)

To be considered for these positions, please send full career and remuneration details, quoting the appropriate reference number to: Digby Jay Jones, Oil & Gas - Search - Selection, The Atrium Court, Apex Plaza, Reading, Berkshire RG1 1AX.

Fax: 01734 63715.

**DIGBY JAY JONES**

- OIL & GAS - SEARCH - SELECTION -

#### MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### SENIOR BUSINESS TRANSLATOR

An investment bank focused on Eastern Europe requires a highly motivated and suitably qualified Senior Business Translator.

The successful candidate will provide translation services for senior management, including attendance at meetings, preparing and writing presentations, translating specialist and other business documentation, assembling multilingual documents for clients, liaising with overseas offices. The position would be based in London reporting to an Executive Director responsible for developing Eastern European markets including Russia and Hungary.

The applicant must have excellent language skills and be fluent in Russian, Hungarian and English. Since over 80% of the role will involve languages other than English and ability to speak at least two other European languages (one of which should be Eastern European) would be a significant advantage. The successful candidate will also have at least 3 years relevant experience in a similar role at a senior level in an international banking institution, and will display strong organisational and management skills. The candidate must be flexible with regard to hours worked, including weekend duties. Salary £22,000 per annum. Please Reply to Box No 8496

#### PROPERTY SECRETARY

Two dynamic property desks are seeking organised and capable secretaries to manage busy offices. Experience in West End, ability to work from home is required. Ideally candidates should have minimum 2 years office experience with good Word for Windows & skills and audio. Good telephone manner and flexible attitude to working hours preferred. Salary £17,500. Please apply in writing enclosing full CV to:

Patricia Peck on 0171-225-0814 or fax her on 0171-581-0725.

#### SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

Report for construction maintenance company applying with administrative experience to handle day-to-day office administration. Previous experience in a similar role is a must. Good Word and Excel.

Salary £18,000 (Neg). Send CV to Mrs J. Williams, 59 Westgate, Reading, RG1 3LF. Tel: 01865 202222. For further information please call Imogen Personnel on 0171-579-1272.

#### MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### BILINGUAL PA £20,000 + bens

This Blue chip West End financial company require a bilingual PA to assist their head director plus two senior partners. Must have shorthand, telephone, dictation and typing skills. Please apply in writing enclosing full CV to:

Patricia Peck on 0171-225-0814.

#### ADMINISTRATOR/CLINIC COORDINATOR

To man independent Harley Street Clinic with patient liaison/secretarial/coordination, etc.

The position will suit an outgoing, organised person who is used to working in a professional environment.

Word processing experience, WPS & Windows 3.0 required. Excellent, negotiable salary for the right person.

Please apply, giving names of two referees, to Mrs P. Hammerstone, London Gynaecology & Fertility Centre, Cressen House, 112a Harley Street, London W1N 1AF.

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WEBSITE MAINTENANCE - Flexible and adaptable part-time hours for carrying out work in care of clients. Experience in website design, maintenance, design, graphics, etc. Ability to work from home. Please apply to:

John D. Smith, 100-102a Gloucester Road, London SW1 4PL.

#### CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR

Small conference company based in West London, specialising in events on financial topics, needs a conference administrator/office administrator to handle delegate registrations, liaison with venues and to assist in bookings.

Excellent opportunity for bright, resourceful, conscientious, hard-working person. Attention to detail, initiative and an efficient and friendly manner essential. Salary commensurate with experience.

Please apply in writing to:

Helen Douglas, International Conference Group, Suite 6C, Long Island House, 14 Warley Way, London, W3 0RS

#### PROFILES

PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

marketing

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sales, admin, etc.

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## NEWS

## Prince not likely to remarry soon

The marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales was finally ended with the granting of a decree absolute yesterday as the Prime Minister said there was no immediate prospect of the Prince marrying again.

Stripped of the title HRH, Diana, Princess of Wales, began her new life as a single woman wearing a broad smile and her wedding and engagement rings as she attended a luncheon engagement in London. Pages 1, 4, 13, 14, 15

## Tories win back middle classes

The Tories are winning back middle-class voters amid signs of greater public optimism about the economy, according to the latest MORI poll for *The Times*. The party has recovered to level pegging with Labour among the middle classes for the first time in two and a half years. Page 1

## Eyes do not have it

The Advertising Standards Authority issued an unprecedented rebuke to a political party when it ruled that the Tory demon eyes poster of Tony Blair breached the industry's code. Page 1

## Another Botham

Liam Botham, 19, son of England's greatest all-rounder, announced his arrival in the county game with a first appearance that proved he has his father's theatrical talent. Pages 1, 45

## Loyalist purge

The loyalist paramilitary leadership cracked down on its hardliners when it ordered two men to leave Northern Ireland within 72 hours. Page 2

## Politicians fear film

The Venice Film Festival is awaiting the premiere of Liam Neeson's film about Michael Collins, an early founder of the IRA. But politicians are said to be dreading it. Page 3

## Cola hijackers

The hijackers of the Sudan Air Airbus who surrendered at Stansted launched their takeover by smashing cola bottles. Page 4

## Architecture fine

Gabriele Bramante, whose King-ton Citizens' Advice Bureau building won the BBC Design award for architecture, was fined £2,000 because she is not registered as an architect. Page 5

## Ex-laird sparks chicken or Egg row

A question of who came first to the island of Eigg yesterday threatened to upset a £2 million public appeal to wrest it from private ownership. A former laird said that island settlers were "chancers" who had driven away native Hebrideans. But islanders said that many had been there for generations, while the one-time laird came from Yorkshire. Page 7



Purée heaven: Revellers at the annual Tomatina festival in Buñol, eastern Spain, enjoy themselves among 100 tons of tomatoes

## BUSINESS

**W H Smith**: W H Smith reported its first loss in its 204-year history and admitted that it was up to four years away from a full recovery. Page 25

**Lloyd's**: The Lloyd's of London council is expected to press ahead formally with its £3.2 billion reconstruction after winning an endorsement of the recovery plan for the insurance market. Page 25

**Hanson**: The Hanson conglomerate revealed that it will spend £95 million on splitting the group into four companies. Page 25

**Markets**: The FT-SE 100 index rose 13.0 points to close at 3918.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 84.8 to 85.0 after a rise from \$1.555 to \$1.559 and from DM2.2987 to DM2.3015. Page 28

**Arafat urges uprising**

Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian president, called on followers to rise up against Israel in a campaign of civil disobedience, saying the Jewish state had declared war on his people. Page 10

**Clinton arrives**

President Clinton was arriving in Chicago for his coronation at a Democratic convention galvanised by the First Lady and united as rarely before. Page 11

**AA Roadwatch**

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 401 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London, 701 Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants, 702 Devon & Cornwall, 704 Wiltshire/Gloucestershire, 705 Berkshire/Oxon, 707 Bedfordshire, 708 Norfolk/Suffolk/Cambs, 709 West Mids & Shropshire, 709 Shrops/Herts/Worcs, 710 Cheshire, 712 East Midlands, 713 Lincs & Humberside, 714 Dyfed & Powys, 714 Gwent & Mon., 715 N.W. England, 717 W. & Yorks & Dakls, 717 N.E. England, 718 Cumbria & Lake District, 719 S. & W. Central Scotland, 721 W. Central Scotland & Borders, 722 E. Central Scotland, 723 Grampian & Highlands, 724 N.W. Scotland, 725 Caithness, Orkney & Shetland, 726 N. Ireland, 727 Weathercall is charged at 38p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

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